



Report for the 23rd session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

Hyderabad, India, 17-21 June 2019

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ACRONYMS

AFAD	Anchored fish aggregating device
BIOT	British Indian Ocean Territory
BMSY	Biomass which produces MSY
CMM	Conservation and Management Measure (of the IOTC; Resolutions and Recommendations)
CNCP	Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, of the IOTC
CoC	Compliance Committee of the IOTC
CPs	Contracting Parties
CPCs	Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties
DFAD	Drifting fish aggregating device
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
FAD	Fish aggregating device
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMSY	Fishing mortality at MSY
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HCR	Harvest control rule
ICRU	Improved Cost Recovery Uplift
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IPNLF	International Pole and Line Foundation
ISSF	International Seafood Sustainability Foundation
IUU	Illegal, unreported and unregulated
LRP	Limit reference point
LSTLV	Large-scale tuna longline vessel
MPF	Meeting participation fund, of the IOTC
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSE	Management Strategy Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OFCF	Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
OPRT	Organisation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries
OT	Overseas Territories
PEW	PEW Charitable Trust
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SC	Scientific Committee of the IOTC
SCAF	Standing Committee on Administration and Finance of the IOTC
SIOFA	Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
SBMSY	Spawning or 'adult' equilibrium biomass at MSY
SWIOFC	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
TCAC	Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria of the IOTC
TCMP	Technical Committee on Management Procedures
TCPR	Technical Committee on Performance Review
TRP	Target referent point
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WPEB	Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch of the IOTC
WPICMM	Working party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures
WPM	Working Party on Methods of the IOTC
WPTmT	Working Party on Temperate tunas of the IOTC
WPTT	Working Party on Tropical Tunas of the IOTC
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (a.k.a World Wildlife Fund)

HOW TO INTERPRET TERMINOLOGY CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT

This report uses the following terms and associated definitions.

Level 1: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to the next level in the structure of the Commission:

RECOMMENDED, RECOMMENDATION: Any conclusion or request for an action to be undertaken, from a subsidiary body of the Commission (Committee or Working Party), which is to be formally provided to the next level in the structure of the Commission for its consideration/endorsement (e.g. from a Working Party to the Scientific Committee; from a Committee to the Commission). The intention is that the higher body will consider the recommended action for endorsement under its own mandate, if the subsidiary body does not already have the required mandate. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for completion.

Level 2: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to a CPC, the IOTC Secretariat, or other body (not the Commission) to carry out a specified task:

REQUESTED: This term should only be used by a subsidiary body of the Commission if it does not wish to have the request formally adopted/endorsed by the next level in the structure of the Commission. For example, if a Committee wishes to seek additional input from a CPC on a particular topic, but does not wish to formalise the request beyond the mandate of the Committee, it may request that a set action be undertaken. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for the completion.

Level 3: General terms to be used for consistency:

AGREED: Any point of discussion from a meeting which the IOTC body considers to be an agreed course of action covered by its mandate, which has not already been dealt with under Level 1 or level 2 above; a general point of agreement among delegations/participants of a meeting which does not need to be considered/adopted by the next level in the Commission's structure.

NOTED/NOTING: Any point of discussion from a meeting which the IOTC body considers to be important enough to record in a meeting report for future reference.

Any other term: Any other term may be used in addition to the Level 3 terms to highlight to the reader of an IOTC report, the importance of the relevant paragraph. However, other terms used are considered for explanatory/informational purposes only and shall have no higher rating within the reporting terminology hierarchy than Level 3, described above (e.g. **CONSIDERED; URGED; ACKNOWLEDGED**).

CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION

THIRTY-ONE, AS OF 21 JUNE 2019

AUSTRALIA
BANGLADESH
CHINA
COMOROS
ERITREA
EUROPEAN UNION
FRANCE (OT)
INDIA
INDONESIA
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
JAPAN
KENYA
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF
MADAGASCAR
MALAYSIA
MALDIVES
MAURITIUS
MOZAMBIQUE
OMAN
PAKISTAN
PHILIPPINES
SEYCHELLES
SIERRA LEONE
SOMALIA
SOUTH AFRICA, REP. OF
SRI LANKA
SUDAN
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
THAILAND
UNITED KINGDOM (BIOT)
YEMEN

COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION

TWO, AS OF 21 JUNE 2019

LIBERIA
SENEGAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 23rd Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Hyderabad, India from 17-21 June 2019. The meeting was chaired by Ms Susan Imende (Kenya). A total of 163 delegates attended the session, comprising 130 delegates from 24 Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission, 3 delegates from 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, 28 delegates from 12 Observers to the Commission (including 7 Invited Experts) and 2 delegates from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

The Commission adopted a budget of USD 4,367,285 for the 2020 calendar year ([Appendix 11](#)), and a corresponding scheme of contributions ([Appendix 12](#)).

The Commission granted the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, until the close of the 24th Session in 2020, to Liberia and Senegal.

The Commission added 1 vessel to the IOTC IUU Vessels List, bringing the total number of vessels listed to 65 vessels ([Appendix 10](#)).

The Commission adopted 7 Conservation and Management Measures ([Appendix 7](#)), as follows:

Resolution 19/01 *On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of competence.*

Resolution 19/02 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan.*

Resolution 19/03 *On the conservation of mobulid species caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

Resolution 19/04 *Concerning the IOTC Record of Vessels Authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

Resolution 19/05 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

Resolution 19/06 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels.*

Resolution 19/07 *On vessel chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

About this revision

Only Appendix 7 (Conservation and Management Measures adopted in 2019) of the original S23 Report has been changed in this revision.

As indicated in IOTC Circular 2019-36, the changes pertain to minor editorial corrections in the CMMs, and structural changes in Resolution 19/01 and 19/04 which resulted in a change in the number of paragraphs from the previous versions. In addition, an error identified in Resolution 19/07 has been corrected. This related to paragraph 2, where the 3rd sentence has been truncated in accordance with agreements made during the commission meeting.

The CMM's included in this revision should be considered to be the definitive versions.

1. Opening of the session

1. The 23rd Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was held in Hyderabad, India from 17-21 June 2019. The meeting was chaired by Ms Susan Imende (Kenya). A total of 163 delegates attended the session, comprising 130 delegates from 24 Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission, 3 delegates from 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, 28 delegates from 12 Observers to the Commission (including 7 Invited Experts) and 2 delegates from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The list of participants is provided in [Appendix 1](#).
2. Opening remarks were made by Mrs Rajni Sekhri Sibal, Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries India and Mr Alejandro Anganuzzi representing the FAO.

2. Letters of credentials

3. A Credentials Committee comprising the IOTC Executive Secretary, the IOTC Secretariat's Administrative Officer, and the Chairperson of the SCAF, reviewed the credentials provided by the CPCs and Observers.
4. The Commission **NOTED** that 24 Members, 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, and 12 Observers submitted credentials.
5. The Commission **NOTED** the statements made by Mauritius and the United Kingdom(BIOT) ([Appendix 2](#)).

3. Admission of observers

6. The Commission **RECALLED** its agreement made in 2012 that meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies should be open to participation by observers. Pursuant to Article VII of the Agreement establishing the IOTC, the Commission admitted the following observers, in accordance with Rule XIV of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014):
 - a. *Members and Associate Members of the FAO that are not Members of the Commission.*
 - United States of America
 - b. *Intergovernmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission.*
 - Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)
 - Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
 - c. *Non-governmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission.*
 - Blue Resources Trust
 - Fédération des Pêcheurs Artisans de l'Océan Indien (FPAOI)
 - International Pole and Line Foundation (IPNLF)
 - International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)

- Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)
 - PEW Charitable Trusts (PEW)
 - Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative (SIOTI)
 - World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- d. *Invited consultants and experts.*
- Taiwan, Province of China
 - Curaçao (CNCP applicant)

4. Adoption of the agenda and arrangements for the session

7. The Commission **NOTED** the statement made by the Republic of Mauritius requesting the inclusion of an item on the Agenda of the meeting relating to the termination of the United Kingdom(BIOT)'s membership of the Commission as a coastal State following the adoption of the UNGA resolution 73/295 on May 22, 2019. The Commission further **NOTED** the statement made by the Republic of Mauritius regarding Tromelin.
8. The Commission **NOTED** the statement by the United Kingdom(BIOT) which included a rejection of this item on the agenda for future sessions of the IOTC. The Commission also **NOTED** the statement of France(OT) regarding Tromelin. All three statements are provided in [Appendix 2](#).
9. The Chair concluded that this issue was a global one. The Chair also noted that the Commission as a specialised institution of the UN would need to abide by the Resolution of the UN General Assembly but given that the delegates present may not have had proper guidance from their capitals, the Chair requested Mauritius to allow us to take note of the issue but to put the issue of the termination of United Kingdom(BIOT)'s membership at the IOTC as a coastal State as an item on the agenda for the next session of the Commission.
10. The Chair invited the FAO to submit a further paper on how it proposes to implement paragraph 6 of the UNGA Resolution 73/295 bearing in mind instructions issued by the Office of Legal Affairs.
11. The Commission **ADOPTED** the agenda provided in [Appendix 3](#). The documents presented to the Commission are listed in [Appendix 4](#).

5. Update on the implementation of decision of the Commission in 2018 (S22)

12. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2019-S23-03.

6. Amendments to the IOTC procedures

6.1 Outcomes of the work of the small drafting group on the rules of procedure relating to the appointment of an Executive Secretary

13. The Commission **NOTED** the following summary of events:
 - In accordance with the Commission's recommendation from May 2018 (S22), the small drafting group met with representatives of the FAO Secretariat in July 2018 to discuss proposed appointment procedures.
 - While there was some mutual acceptance of the need for both sides to be involved in appointments, little progress was made on operationalising this in a new procedure. However, at the small drafting group's suggestion, the FAO agreed to nominate a person to act as interlocutor, so that less formal discussions could be held going forward. The FAO subsequently nominated the independent Chairperson of the FAO Council, Mr Khalid Mehboob, and the small drafting group hopes this will assist the IOTC to progress discussions more efficiently in the future. The outcomes of this meeting were reported in IOTC Circular 2018-46.
 - The FAO Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (the CCLM) met in October 2018 and considered a proposal from the FAO Secretariat for a selection and appointment process for the IOTC and other Article XIV

bodies to use. This process was like that used by the FAO for senior staff appointments but with some adjustments so that the Article XIV bodies could be involved during interviews. This was essentially the same procedure used to appoint the current Executive Secretary, where two IOTC members were permitted to sit on the interview panel.

- The CCLM agreed to the FAO Secretariat's proposal on an interim basis, until a more lasting solution that was acceptable to both sides can be found. The CCLM also requested the Independent Chairperson of Council to continue consulting with Article XIV bodies and the FAO Secretariat towards a more permanent agreement on an appointment process by December 2019.
- The FAO Council met in December 2018 and approved the CCLM's recommendations.

14. The Commission **NOTED** that since July 2018, there has been no contact between the small drafting group and the Independent Chair of the FAO Council.
15. The Commission **NOTED** that another Article XIV body (the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, GB-ITPGRFA), which is currently dealing with the same issue, is making progress in negotiating a new appointment procedure for its Executive Secretary. It is likely that the procedure that is agreed through those negotiations will be put to the IOTC as a possible model.
16. The Commission **THANKED** the small drafting group for its work and **REQUESTED** that it monitor the GB-ITPGRFA's progress and continue consulting with the Independent Chairperson of the Council in the intersessional period with a view to ascertaining a mutually acceptable solution. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the Small drafting group report back to the next session of the Commission.

6.2 Proposal to amend Appendix V of the Compliance Committee terms of reference and rules of procedure

17. The Commission **NOTED** IOTC-2019-S23-04 that outlined proposed amendments to Appendix V of the Terms of Reference for the Compliance Committee.
18. The Commission **RECALLED** that this proposal had been submitted in 2018 and subsequently had been reviewed by the WPICMM and CoC16. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** the progress of the proposal and **ENCOURAGED** Members to contribute to the further development of the text during the course of the meeting.
19. The Commission **NOTED** that the proposal was revised over the course of the meeting and **ENCOURAGED** all CPCs to continue to provide comments to the authors of the proposal prior to the next WPICMM03.

6.3 Amendments to the IOTC Financial Regulations

20. The Commission **NOTED** the presentation from the SCAF Chairperson who reported on the outcomes of the SCAF16's deliberations on proposed amendments for the IOTC Financial Regulations. The Commission **NOTED** that the key amendments related to the introduction of a working capital fund, introduction of a mid-term review of the budget and acceptance of extra-budgetary funding.
21. The Commission **ADOPTED** the amended Financial Regulations ([Appendix 5](#)) and **REQUESTED** the IOTC Chairperson to forward these to the Finance Committee of FAO for approval (a requirement under Article VI.7 of the IOTC Agreement).
22. The Commission **NOTED** that two interpretations of the definition of 'arrears' (Regulation V.3 of the IOTC Financial Regulations) have been applied over time, one as a common, long-standing interpretation, and the other being a more recent interpretation used by the Secretariat; however, neither interpretation had been officially endorsed. Notwithstanding this, the Commission **RECOMMENDED** the Secretariat apply the following definition whereby the 'following calendar year' is to be interpreted as being the year following the budget year. Furthermore, this interpretation shall be applied by the Secretariat when considering meeting participation fund applications and in all situations where the term 'in arrears' is used, until the amended Financial Regulations have been adopted with a clarification of Regulation V.3 on the definitive interpretation of 'arrears'.

6.4 Clarification on the eligibility of Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of IOTC Working Parties.

23. The Commission **NOTED** document IOTC-2019-S23-09 which sought guidance from the Commission on whether individuals who are not representatives of a CPC are eligible to be elected as a chairperson or vice-chairperson of an IOTC working party.
24. The Commission **NOTED** that the rules surrounding the eligibility of working party chairpersons and vice-chairpersons are not clear compared to those relating to Sub-Commissions and the Scientific Committee.
25. The Commission **AGREED** that scientific working party chairpersons and vice-chairpersons should be selected by consensus within the working party. Furthermore, preference should be given to representatives from CPC's. However, the Commission also **AGREED** that suitably qualified external experts should not be excluded from the roles, but they would be subject to confirmation by the Commission.

7. Report of the Scientific Committee

7.1 Overview of the 2018 SC21 Report

26. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 21st Session of the Scientific Committee (SC) (IOTC-2018-SC21-R) which was presented by the Scientific Committee Chair, Dr Hilario Murua (EU). A total of 73 participants from 23 Contracting Parties, 8 observers, and 1 Invited Expert attended the last Scientific Committee meeting.
27. The Commission **NOTED** that the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund supported 46 CPC scientists to participate in IOTC scientific working parties and the Scientific Committee in 2018 and **AGREED** that this fund should be continued to enable CPC scientists to participate more fully in IOTC scientific processes.
28. The Commission **NOTED** that 7 Contracting Parties and 1 Cooperating Non-Contracting Party did not submit a National Report to the Scientific Committee in 2018, and issues with lack of data and poor-quality data persist. The Commission **REITERATED** its concerns about the lack and poor quality of data, and again, strongly **ENCOURAGED** CPCs to take immediate steps to review, and where necessary, improve their performance with respect to the provision of data through improved compliance with Resolutions 15/01 *On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence*, and 15/02 *Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties*.
29. The Commission **NOTED** the stock status summaries for species of tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate, as well as other species impacted by IOTC fisheries ([Appendix 6](#)) and considered the recommendations made by the Scientific Committee to the Commission. The Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee's 2018 list of recommendations as its own.
30. The Commission **ENDORSED** the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons elected by the Scientific Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the coming years, as listed in [Appendix 7](#) of the 2018 Scientific Committee Report.
31. The Commission **NOTED** the complications inherent in data collection and analysis for several coastal fisheries and species and in particular, those for neritic tunas. This affects the Scientific Committee's ability to provide management advice for these species and fleets. Coastal states were **ENCOURAGED** to reflect on the problems they have in data collection so that they can be addressed. The Commission also **NOTED** the advice from the WPNT and the need to make management decisions based on this advice.
32. The Commission **REQUESTED** the Scientific Committee to provide advice when possible in the Kobe II strategy matrix using short term annual projections as well as the existing medium and long-term projections.

7.2 IOTC Strategic Science Plan 2020-2024

33. The Commission **NOTED** the IOTC Strategic Science Plan for 2020-2024 (IOTC-2019-S23-11). This plan was first presented to the IOTC Scientific Committee in 2018, then distributed to IOTC Members for final comments during early 2019; before being presented to the Commission for it to consider its endorsement.

34. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IOTC Strategic Science Plan 2020-2024, but **NOTED** that it was extremely ambitious and that its implementation should be reviewed by the Scientific Committee in 2022 and if necessary, modified.
35. The Commission **NOTED** that the adoption of the plan did not include a budget for each component of the plan. Budget allocations for the components of this plan would continue to be made on an annual basis, based on the requests and priorities identified by the Scientific Committee.

7.3 The status of tropical and temperate tunas

36. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of tropical and temperate tunas is as follows (full details are provided in [Appendix 6](#)):

<p>Bigeye tuna</p> <p>The stock status is determined on the basis of the 2016 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018. On the weight-of-evidence available, the bigeye tuna stock has been determined to be not overfished and is not subject to overfishing. If catch remains below the estimated MSY levels, then immediate management measures are not required.</p>
<p>Yellowfin tuna</p> <p>On the weight-of-evidence available in 2018, the yellowfin tuna stock has been determined to be overfished and subject to overfishing. As a precautionary measure, the Commission should ensure that catches are reduced to end overfishing and allow the SSB to recover to SSB_{MSY} levels. At this stage, specific catch limits are not provided.</p>
<p>Skipjack tuna</p> <p>Stock status is determined on the basis of the 2017 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018. On the weight-of-evidence available, the skipjack tuna stock has been determined to be not overfished and is not subject to overfishing. The Commission needs to ensure that catches of skipjack in the 2018–2020 period do not exceed the agreed limit.</p>
<p>Albacore tuna</p> <p>On the weight-of-evidence available, the albacore tuna stock has been determined to be not overfished and is not subject to overfishing. A precautionary approach to the management of albacore tuna should be applied by capping total catch levels to MSY levels (38,800 t).</p>

37. The Commission **NOTED** the uncertainty in the yellowfin tuna assessment and that the Scientific Committee had not recommended any concrete catch advice due to the uncertainty in the projections and the associated Kobe II strategy matrix (K2SM). The Commission was informed that uncertainty is inherent in all assessments, and is not specific to yellowfin tuna. The Commission **NOTED** that the Scientific Committee has developed a yellowfin tuna workplan which aims to address and reduce many of the uncertainties in the 2019 assessment. This is expected to result in the provision of more robust advice on stock status and catch forecasts for this species in the future.
38. The Commission **NOTED** the considerable use of estimated data in the yellowfin tuna assessment due to the unavailability of data from CPCs, as is the case for all species. The Commission **URGED** all CPCs to improve their data collection and reporting.

7.4 Matters related to ecosystems, bycatch and the status of sharks

39. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of sharks is as follows (full details are provided in [Appendix 6](#)):

<p>Blue shark</p> <p>Blue shark is assessed to be not overfished or subject to overfishing. If the catches are reduced at least 10%, the probability of maintaining stock biomass above MSY reference levels ($B > B_{MSY}$) over the next 8 years will be increased.</p>
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Oceanic whitetip shark

No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for oceanic whitetip shark. The population status remains uncertain.

40. The Commission **NOTED** that the submission of complete, accurate and timely catch records disaggregated by species for sharks and other bycatch species remains low and that this reduces the ability of the Scientific Committee to provide informed management advice for these species.
41. The Commission **NOTED** the concern expressed by the Scientific Committee regarding the status of mobulid rays. Although the recommendations on gear modifications made by the Scientific Committee relate mainly gillnet fisheries, there is also a need to monitor mobulid interactions with other gears and fleets and reduce their associated mortality.

7.5 The status of neritic tunas

42. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of neritic tunas is as follows (full details are provided in [Appendix 6](#)):

Kawakawa

An assessment for kawakawa was last carried out in 2015. The stock is not overfished and not subject to overfishing.

Longtail tuna

A longtail assessment was carried out in 2016. The stock is overfished and subject to overfishing. If catches are capped at current (2015) levels at the time of the assessment (i.e. 136,849 t), the stock is expected to recover to levels above MSY reference points with at least a 50% probability by 2025.

Indo-Pacific king mackerel

An assessment of Indo-Pacific king mackerel was carried out in 2016. The stock status is uncertain.

Narrowed-Barred Spanish mackerel

An assessment of narrowed-barred Spanish mackerel was carried out in 2016. The stock is overfished and subject to overfishing. If catches are reduced by 30% of the 2015 levels at the time of the assessment, which corresponds to catches below MSY, the stock is expected to recover to levels above the MSY reference points with at least a 50% probability by 2025.

Bullet tuna

No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for bullet tuna. The population status remains uncertain.

Frigate tuna

No quantitative stock assessment is currently available for frigate tuna. The population status remains uncertain.

43. The Commission **NOTED** that catch of neritic species amounts to around 35% of the total catch of IOTC species, and almost all the catch of neritic species is estimated to be taken by coastal States. The Commission **NOTED**, that around 80% of the catch data available to the Commission on neritic species has to be estimated i.e. only around 20% of the catch data is derived from catch sampling processes and reported to the IOTC Secretariat.
44. The Commission **NOTED** that neritic tuna are vital resources for the coastal States. The Commission **EXPRESSED** concern about the overall lack of information on neritic tunas, and **ENCOURAGED** CPCs to improve data collection and reporting, and develop measures to underpin sustainable management of IOTC neritic species.

7.6 The status of billfish

45. The Commission **NOTED** that the current status of billfish is as follows (full details are provided in [Appendix 6](#)):

Swordfish

The stock status is determined on the basis of the 2017 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018. The stock is not overfished and not subject to overfishing. The most recent catches (34,782 t in 2017) are higher than the MSY level (31,590 t). The catches should be reduced to the MSY level (31,590 t).

Striped Marlin

A new stock assessment for striped marlin was carried out in 2018. The stock is subject to overfishing and overfished. If the Commission wishes to recover the stock to the green quadrant of the Kobe plot with a probability ranging from 60% to 90% by 2026, it needs to provide mechanisms to ensure the maximum annual catches remain between 1,500 t – 2,200 t.

Blue Marlin

A blue marlin assessment was carried out in 2016. The stock was subject to overfishing but was not overfished. Current catches exceed the catch limit as stipulated in Resolution 18/05. The Commission should provide mechanisms to ensure the catch limits are not exceeded in the future.

Black Marlin

A new black marlin assessment was carried out in 2018. The stock is not subject to overfishing and is currently not overfished; however, these status estimates are subject to a high degree of uncertainty.

Indo-Pacific sailfish

An Indo-Pacific sailfish assessment was carried out in 2015. The stock is not considered to be overfished but is subject to overfishing. The catch limits as stipulated in Resolution 18/05 have been exceeded. The Commission should provide mechanisms to ensure that catch limits are not exceeded by all concerned fisheries.

46. The Commission **EXPRESSED** concern that catches for all billfish species (except striped marlin in 2017) in both 2016 and 2017 were higher than the limits outlined in Resolution 18/05.

8. Conservation and Management Measures Proposals

47. The Commission **ADOPTED** the following Conservation and management measures ([Appendix 7](#)):

Resolution 19/01 *On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of competence.*

This resolution took into account elements of Proposals B, K and S.

Resolution 19/02 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan.*

This resolution took into account elements of Proposals G and H.

Resolution 19/03 *On the conservation of mobulid species caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

This resolution took into account elements of Proposals I and O.

Resolution 19/04 *Concerning the IOTC Record of Vessels Authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

The basis of this resolution was Proposal E.

Resolution 19/05 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

The basis of this resolution was Proposal D.

Resolution 19/06 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels.*

This resolution took into account elements of Proposals C and N.

Resolution 19/07 *On vessel chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence.*

This resolution took into account elements of Proposals F and Q.

48. Regarding Resolution 19/01, the Commission **NOTED** the objection by India to components of this Resolution; and the statements by the Republic of Korea and the Maldives as included in [Appendix 8](#).
49. Regarding Resolution 19/03, the Commission **NOTED** that Japan's support of this resolution shall not prejudice the position of Japan in other RFMOs.
50. The Commission also **CONSIDERED** the following proposals:
- [IOTC-2019-S23-PropA](#) *On the allocation of fishing opportunities for IOTC species*. The proponents agreed to defer this proposal and continue to work and collaborate on a revised proposal intersessionally to be provided to the next TCAC and Commission meetings.
 - [IOTC-2019-S23-PropM](#) *Establishing a quota allocation system for the main targeted species in the IOTC Area of Competence*. The proponents requested comments on the proposal for its further development and presentation to the TCAC. The proponents expressed their preference to move towards developing a single common text on Allocations.
 - [IOTC-2019-S23-PropJ](#) *On a regional observer scheme*. There was no consensus regarding key elements of this proposal such as the level of observer coverage. However, there was support for other aspects of the proposal, particularly electronic monitoring, and the proponents were encouraged to continue discussing and revising the text for future presentation to the Commission.
 - [IOTC-2019-S23-PropP](#) *On a management procedure for yellowfin tuna in the IOTC Area of Competence*. The proponents agreed to defer this proposal, which was presented as a working draft, and will work with interested members during the intersessional period to bring for discussion at the next TCMP and Commission meetings.
 - [IOTC-2019-S23-PropR](#) *Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information*. Some members noted that elements of this proposal pre-empt the outcomes of ongoing discussions on allocation. There was no consensus on this proposal at S23 and the proposal was deferred.
 - [IOTC-2019-S23-PropL](#) *On marking of fishing gear and prevention of marine pollution*. There was no consensus on this proposal and the Proponents agreed to defer the proposal for further discussion and possible presentation at the next Commission meeting.
51. The Chairperson encouraged all CPCs to continue to contribute to the development of proposals for conservation and management measures during the intersessional period
52. Regarding PropA and PropM, the Commission **NOTED** the statements made by Comoros, France(OT), Mauritius and the United Kingdom(BIOT) ([Appendix 2](#)).
53. Regarding PropL, the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat to initiate a process to develop draft guidelines on how IOTC might operationalize the FAO voluntary guidelines on the marking of fishing gear. The process should utilize the expertise of IOTC technical bodies and review the guidelines by electronic means, before being made available to the Commission in 2020.
54. Regarding PropL, the Commission **NOTED** the statement made by Mauritius ([Appendix 2](#)).

9. Report of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria

9.1 Overview of the TCAC05 report

55. The Executive Secretary presented the report of the TCAC05 held in Seychelles, from 11 to 13 March 2019 (IOTC-2019-TCMP03-R). The meeting was chaired by the independent chairperson, Mr. Don MacKay. A total of 69 delegates attended the Session, comprising 62 delegates from 21 Contracting Parties (Members), 4 delegates from observer organisations and 3 Invited Experts.

56. The Commission **NOTED** that an independent consultant had been contracted to simulate allocation proportions of a global TAC by species and CPC. The simulations for catch allocation were based on those in two allocation proposals IOTC-2018-S22-INF01 and IOTC-2019-TCAC05-PropA_Rev2.
57. The Commission **NOTED** that given that there were two proposals, the TCAC Chairperson was requested to develop a 'three-column' document containing the elements of the two current proposals (i.e. two columns), and in the third column, a list of outcomes relating to elements that have been discussed. In particular, the third column would include any possible compromises or options on elements of the proposals, as well as matters that the Chairperson considered to be relevant and would benefit from being discussed.
58. The Commission **NOTED** that some members expressed concern that the three-column document did not provide sufficient information to identify a clear way forward and find compromises between the various allocation proposals, while other members disagreed, and indicated that the document contained what had been requested.
59. The Commission **NOTED** the TCAC's conclusion that the duration of TCAC meetings is too short and as such, does not result in a sufficient negotiating momentum to be developed.
60. The Commission **AGREED** to extend the duration of the TCAC by 2 days, to a 5-day session in 2020.
61. The Commission **NOTED** that although progress has been made on allocation discussions, it has been slow and alternative solutions may be required to advance the process. This could involve alternatives, including but not limited to, discussing allocation on a species by species basis, and/or discussing allocation catch figures rather than the underlying allocation equations.
62. The Commission **NOTED** that, due to FAO's maximum age policy for recruitment of consultants, the current TCAC Chairperson, should no longer be contracted, and therefore is unable to continue in the role of independent chairperson of the TCAC. The Commission **THANKED** Mr MacKay for his valuable contribution to the TCAC and its work since 2016.
63. The Commission **AGREED** that the TCAC should continue to be chaired by an independent expert elected by CPCs intersessionally. To this end, the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat to implement the selection process provided in [Appendix 9](#).
64. The Commission **NOTED** the statements made by Comoros and France(OT) ([Appendix 2](#)).

10. Report of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures

10.1 Overview of the TCMP03 report

65. The Commission **NOTED** the report (IOTC-2019-TCMP-03-R) from the 3rd meeting of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP) and **ENDORSED** its recommendation.
66. The Commission **NOTED** that further work is required on understanding the determination of stock status relative to Reference Points, and endorsed the TCMP request to form an ad-hoc working group to continue to work on this matter intersessionally in preparation for the TCMP in 2020.
67. The Commission **NOTED** that a range of tuning criteria have been specified by the TCMP for the management procedures of key IOTC stocks (refer to Appendix V of the TCMP03 report). The Commission **NOTED** the success of the TCMP in engaging discussions on Management Procedures through the use of interactive tools.

10.2 Review of the need for a continuation of the TCMP

68. The Commission **AGREED** that the TCMP should continue to meet in order to progress its work on management procedure matters and advise the Commission on management procedure-related issues, including MSE. The Commission also **AGREED** that while the TCMP should continue to educate participants on MSE processes, it should concentrate on advancing the development of Management Procedures for presentation to the Commission. To this end, capacity building should also continue intersessionally, and the Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat to explore possible external sources of funding to undertake this.

69. The Commission **NOTED** that the management advice arising from the Yellowfin tuna management strategy evaluation was of concern, and if implemented would require major catch reductions to recover the stock. The Commission **AGREED** that more information on the options to reduce catches was required and **REQUESTED** the Scientific Committee and the TCMP to investigate the possibility of including an additional parameter, namely the reduction of juvenile catch, in future tunings of the management procedure in order to determine plausible ranges of juvenile catch reduction. If this parameter proves to be difficult to be included as a tuning criteria, it should be presented as a summary performance statistic. The Commission **REQUESTED** that the TCMP provide further advice on this issue in 2020.

11. Report of the Compliance Committee

11.1 Overview of the CoC16 report

70. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 16th Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC) (IOTC–2019–CoC16–R), which was presented by the Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Anne-France Mattlet (France (OT)), who chaired the meeting. A total of 81 delegates attended the Session; comprising delegates from 23 Contracting Parties (Members), 2 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, 4 observer organisations, and 5 Invited Experts.
71. The Commission **ENDORSED** the amendments made by the Compliance Committee to the recommendations of the Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM02), with the exception of the recommendation that only carrier vessels from CPCs are included in the list of authorised carrier vessels, as of CoC19 (CoC16.29).
72. The Commission **NOTED** the concerns of both the Compliance Committee and the SCAF that the Secretariat's Compliance team does not have the full complement of staff agreed to by the Commission, since 2016.
73. The Commission **NOTED** that a recruitment process for the Compliance Manager was undertaken by the Secretariat in 2018, but that FAO did not endorse the outcome due to its concerns that there was insufficient diversity in both the shortlist of candidates and in the interview panel.
74. The Commission **EXPRESSED** its strong desire to have the Compliance team operating at full strength as soon as possible. The Commission **NOTED** the explanation from the Executive Secretary on the recruitment process undertaken and **REQUESTED** the Chairpersons of the Commission and the Compliance Committee to work with the Executive Secretary and FAO to review this process.
75. The Commission **ENDORSED** the consolidated set of recommendations from CoC16.

Recommendations arising from the review of compliance status

76. The Commission **ENDORSED** the 18 recommendations arising from the review of the country-based Compliance Reports and the summary report on the levels of compliance (CoC16.01 to 18).
77. The Commission **NOTED** that recommendation CoC16.13 (related to the activities of chartered vessels under Resolution 10/08), was contrary to what is being expressed in one of the proposals for allocation criteria. However, the Commission **AGREED** that the activities of chartered vessels shall be reported by both the Chartering CP and the flag CP.
78. The Commission **NOTED** the statement from the Maldives on their objection to the compliance assessment against the implementation of the Resolution 18/01 *On an Interim Plan for Rebuilding the Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stocks in the IOTC Area of Competence*, based on the Table 3 of the IOTC-2018-SC21-Report. Maldives in their statement **NOTED** that catches of yellowfin tuna from handline gear for the vessels that are applicable to the Resolution (i.e. vessels above 24m LOA) were reduced as required by the Resolution and objected to the use of tables with cumulative catches for the full fishing fleet without due consideration to the applicability of the Resolution.

Recommendations relating to vessels for potential breach of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

79. The Commission **ENDORSED** the two recommendations (CoC16.19 and CoC16.20) relating to information presented to the Compliance Committee in relation to potential breaches of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures by some vessels in the IOTC Area.

11.2 Adoption of the List of IUU Vessels

80. The Commission **ENDORSED** the two recommendations (CoC16.21 and CoC16.22) of the CoC to update the names of eight vessels on the IUU Vessels List.
81. The Commission **REQUESTED** that Somalia provide in the intersessional period, an official letter confirming that the vessels AL WESAM 1, AL WESAM 2, AL WESAM 4 and AL WESAM 5 are not registered to Somalia, as well as any evidence supporting their statement.
82. The Commission **ENDORSED** the deletion of the vessel, VACHANAM, from the IOTC IUU vessel list.
83. The Commission **ENDORSED** the addition of the vessel, CHOTCHAINAVEE 35, to the IOTC IUU vessel list.
84. The Commission **ENDORSED** the recommendation (CoC16.23) of the Compliance Committee not to change the details of the carrier vessel, WISDOM SEA REEFER, flagged to Honduras, on the IOTC IUU Vessels List.
85. The Commission **ADOPTED** the IOTC IUU Vessels List ([Appendix 10](#)). All CPCs shall be required to take the necessary measures regarding the IUU Vessels List in accordance with paragraph 21 of Resolution 18/03.

Clarifications on the IUU Vessels cross-listing procedures

86. The Commission **NOTED** the recommendation of the CoC16 (CoC16.37) on cross-listing of vessels from the seven organisations mentioned in paragraph 31 of Resolution 18/03 and **AGREED** that the cross-listing procedure be applied in accordance with paragraphs 33-38 of Resolution 18/03.

11.3 Requests for the accession to the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party

87. The Commission **NOTED** the applications for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) status from Curaçao, Liberia, and Senegal, which were received within the deadline, prior to the commencement of the session.
88. The Commission **GRANTED** CNCP status to Liberia and Senegal, up to the start of the 24th Session of the Commission.
89. The Commission **CONSIDERED** the request from Curaçao to be granted CNCP status. Several CPCs expressed the view that the information provided by Curaçao in its application was contradictory and that it was not in the Commission's interest to grant Curaçao CNCP status. Other CPCs indicated that they were in favour of granting CNCP status to Curaçao. The Commission **NOTED** the lack of consensus on this matter and **AGREED** not to grant CNCP status to Curaçao. The Commission **ADVISED** Curaçao to provide a clearer justification for its request to the Commission for consideration in 2020.

12. Report of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

12.1 Overview of the SCAF16 report

90. The Commission **NOTED** the report of the 16th Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) (IOTC-2019-SCAF16-R), which was presented by the Chairperson, Mr Hussain Sinan (Maldives). A total of 66 participants attended the Session, comprising delegates from 23 Contracting Parties, 1 Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, and 3 Observers including 5 Invited Experts.
91. The Commission **ADOPTED** the SCAF report and **ENDORSED** the list of recommendations made by the SCAF16.
92. The Commission **NOTED** that Sierra Leone has been reintroduced to the table of contributions for 2020, following a communication from the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone indicating its desire to remain as a Member of IOTC and pay its contributions. The Commission also **NOTED** that Sierra Leone was not present at the Compliance Committee, the SCAF or the Commission meetings in 2019 and was still more than two years in

arrears with its contributions. The Commission **REQUESTED** the IOTC Chairperson to write to Sierra Leone and ascertain its intentions with respect to participating in the IOTC as a Member, or possibly as a CNCP.

12.2 Programme of work and budget of the Commission

93. The Commission **ADOPTED** the programme of work and budget for 2020, the indicative budget for 2021 ([Appendix 11](#)), and the schedule of contributions for 2020 as provided in [Appendix 12](#).
94. The Commission **NOTED** that an audit of the IOTC Secretariat was completed by the FAO Office of the Inspector General in March 2019. This completed one of the four actions allocated to the SCAF by the Commission arising from the 2nd Performance Review of the IOTC.

12.3 Schedule of meetings for 2020-2021

95. The Commission **ADOPTED** the schedule of meetings for its subsidiary bodies for 2020 and 2021 as detailed in [Appendix 13](#).

13. Report of the Technical Committee on Performance Review

13.1 Overview of the TCPR02 Report

96. The Chairperson of the TCPR, Ms. Riley Jung-re Kim (Republic of Korea), presented the report of the TCPR held on 14-15 March 2019 in Seychelles. A total of 36 delegates attended the Session, comprising delegates from 17 Contracting Parties (Members), 2 observer organisations, and 3 Invited Experts

13.2 Progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2nd IOTC Performance Review Panel

97. The Commission **NOTED** document IOTC-2019-S23-06_Rev1, which described the progress of the Commission on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2nd IOTC Performance Review Panel. The TCPR noted that the second performance review made 24 recommendations, and the 63 actions related to these recommendations were allocated to one or more of the IOTC's bodies.
98. The Commission **NOTED** that currently 2 of the 63 actions have not yet started while almost all the 32 completed actions have become ongoing activities for IOTC. A priority still has not been set for 1 action. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** that it is responsible for the 2 actions that have not yet started.

13.3 Discussion on the institutional link with FAO

99. The Commission **NOTED** that there was no consensus on whether IOTC should maintain the institutional link with the FAO.

13.4 Discussion on the amendments to the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

100. The Commission **NOTED** that given that there had been no agreement among IOTC Members as to whether IOTC should remain within the FAO framework, the TCPR has provided two texts: (1) a modernization of the current IOTC Agreement amended in track-changes in which IOTC remains as a FAO body and (2) a draft new agreement/convention where IOTC is independent of FAO (IOTC-2019-S23-07).
101. The Commission **NOTED** that there was no consensus on whether work should continue amending the IOTC Agreement text, and it was **AGREED** that these discussions will be deferred to the next meeting of the Commission. CPCs were urged to be proactive in gathering the information required to advance these discussions at the next Commission meeting.
102. The Commission further **NOTED** that some CPCs indicated a willingness to continue to work on the draft Agreement texts. However, the Commission **AGREED** that the TCPR would not meet in 2020.

14. Report of the Scoping Study on the Socio-Economic Data and Indicators of IOTC Fisheries

103. The Commission **NOTED** document IOTC-2019-S23-13 presented on behalf of the external consultant by the Secretariat. The Commission **EXPRESSED** its disappointment that the consultant was not present to deliver the presentation and field questions.
104. The Commission **NOTED** the importance of socio-economic issues to many CPCs.
105. The Commission **REQUESTED** CPCs to, not already having done so, to send comments regarding the draft consultant's report to the Secretariat for their consideration in the final report.
106. The Commission **NOTED** that some members expressed concerns about the ability to compare and verify social and economic information and data. Furthermore, it is important to identify key data and agree on criteria on how to report them. Some distant water fleets expressed difficulty in responding to the scoping study questionnaire as the questions related specifically to the Indian Ocean region and their information is often not available exclusively for this region. The Commission **NOTED** that these fleets requested to be exempt from future questionnaires that are Indian Ocean specific.
107. The Commission **NOTED** that an important component of the study, the dependence of CPCs on fishing was not comprehensively addressed. Factors such as the percentage of employment by the fishing industry as a percentage of total employment would be a good example of addressing this issue. It was stressed that this should occur at a national, but also regional level.
108. The Commission **NOTED** that some CPCs expressed support for the creation of a dedicated working group to continue the discussions on socio-economic issues. The Commission further **NOTED** that the response to the consultant's questionnaire was relatively poor, as only 17 CPCs had responded. The Commission **AGREED** that a working group should only be created once the remaining responses to the questionnaire have been received, and there should be more clarity about what data should be collected and what indicators might be relevant to IOTC to increase the number of responses.
109. The Commission **NOTED** that several socio-economic factors have been included in the allocation proposals and therefore data on these factors could be useful for allocation calculations. The Commission also **ACKNOWLEDGED** that socio-economic information has a wide application in fisheries management and is not exclusive to allocation matters.
110. The Commission **NOTED** the World Bank SWIOFISH2 project is undertaking a socio-economic study in the South West Indian Ocean region. The Commission **REQUESTED** that any future socio-economic studies undertaken by IOTC should take account of this and any other relevant studies and projects.

15. Conservation and management measures

15.1 Current conservation and management measures that require action by the Commission in 2019

111. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2019-S23-08.
112. The Commission **NOTED** that Res 17/05 paragraph 3c states that CPCs are encouraged to consider to progressively implement the measures described in subparagraph 3a to all shark landings. Paragraph 3 would be revisited by the Commission in its 2019 Annual Meeting in light of recommendations from the Scientific Committee, using the best available science and case studies from other CPCs already prohibiting the removal of shark fins on board vessels. As the Scientific Committee has not completed this work, the Commission **AGREED** to consider the matter in 2020.
113. The Commission **RECALLED** its requests in 2018 to the Compliance Committee and Scientific Committee (IOTC-2018-S22-R, paragraph 39):
- to analyse and document, wherever possible, whether the practice of shark finning still takes place in IOTC and to what extent, despite the adoption of Resolution 17/05, and to review the compliance with the requirements contained in Res 17/05, including the shark finning prohibition and the fins naturally attached requirement adopted by IOTC (Compliance Committee);

- to identify possible means to improve the submission of complete, accurate and timely catch records for sharks, as well as the collection of species-specific data on catch, biology, discards and trade. (Scientific Committee).

114. The Commission **NOTED** that in 2019 the WPICMM considered the results of an analysis on the status of compliance with the shark measures. The WPICMM noted there is currently a lack of data to undertake any meaningful assessment on how CPCs are implementing these measures. In 2018, both the WPDCS and SC discussed possible means to improve the submission of complete, accurate and timely catch records for sharks. This matter has been deferred to the next meeting of the WPEB, noting that the focus would be on data improvement.

115. The Commission **NOTED** that the CoC16 assessed, through the country-based Compliance Reports, if CPCs have regulations in place which prohibits the removal of shark fins on board vessels. The assessment concluded that, with regards to this requirement, 18 CPCs are compliant, 4 CPCs partially compliant and 6 CPCs are not compliant.

15.2 Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement

116. The Commission **NOTED** paper IOTC-2019-S23-09.

16. Consideration of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme Draft Standards

117. The Commission **NOTED** document IOTC-2019-S23-10_Rev1 containing draft standards for an IOTC Regional Observer Scheme.

118. The Commission **NOTED** that several CPCs had provided the Secretariat with comments which were used to develop a revised document, although some CPCs expressed their concern that not all their comments had been taken into consideration.

119. The Commission **RECOGNISED** the need to have standards for the IOTC observer scheme, but that the standards for similar schemes being implemented by other tuna RFMOs should also be acceptable to IOTC. The Commission **AGREED** that the standards required for vessels operating under the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Regional Observer Programme meet IOTC standards, and therefore those CPCs whose observer programs have been already accredited by WCPFC are exempted from the application of the IOTC standards.

120. The Commission **ENDORSED** the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme (ROS) standards in principle in order for the Secretariat to implement the ROS, on the understanding that further comments can be made, and that the standards will be reviewed based on these comments and other feedback made during the implementation phase.

17. Any Other Business

17.1 Cooperation with other organisations and institutions

121. The Commission **NOTED** a proposal for a Letter of Understanding with CCSBT (IOTC-2019-S23-12).

122. The Commission **AGREED** to the content of the draft Letter of Understanding with CCSBT and **REQUESTED** the Chairperson of the Commission to sign the letter on behalf of the Commission and send it to CCSBT for signature.

Other cooperation

123. The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** the valuable contributions to the IOTC work from a wide range of partners and collaborators including: the tuna RFMOs, SIOTI, the IOC, INFOFISH, WWF, ISSF, OFCF, the SWIOFISH2 Project and the FAO-GEF ABNJ Tuna Project.

17.2 Date and place of the 24th and 25th Sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies for 2020 and 2021

124. The Commission unanimously **THANKED** the Government of India for hosting the 23rd Session of the Commission and commended the National Fisheries Development Board and the local authorities of Hyderabad on the warm

welcome, the excellent facilities and assistance provided to the IOTC Secretariat and Commission in the organisation and running of the Session.

125. The Commission **THANKED** Indonesia for its offer to host the 24th Session of the Commission (S24), and its associated meetings in Bali, Indonesia. The meetings will be held from 31 May to 12 June 2020. The Commission also **THANKED** Thailand for its offer to host the next TCAC meeting in Bangkok from 16 to 20 March 2020.
126. The Commission **NOTED** a proposal from one CPC to hold the Sessions of the Commission earlier during the year in order to be closer to the Scientific Committee meeting, but there was no consensus on this proposal.
127. The Commission **NOTED** that no host had yet been identified for S25 (in 2021) and its associated meetings. In the event that no host can be confirmed, the IOTC Secretariat will be responsible for finding a location and funding for the meeting.
128. The Commission **NOTED** that the December 2019 meeting of the IOTC Science Committee will be held in Pakistan. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the Secretariat is working with the UN Department of Safety and Security to find an approved hotel.

17.3 Regarding the Tenure of the Executive Secretary

129. The Commission **AGREED** to renew the tenure of the current Executive Secretary, Christopher O'Brien for a further two-year term. The Commission **REQUESTED** the Chairperson to inform the Director General of the FAO of this decision.

18. Election of the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission

130. In accordance with the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), the Commission **RE-ELECTED** for a second term, Ms Riley Jung-re Kim (Korea) as a first Vice-Chairperson of the IOTC for the next biennium.

19. Adoption of the report of the 23rd Session of the Commission

131. The report of the 23rd Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC–2019–S23–R) was **ADOPTED** by correspondence on 12 September 2019.

APPENDIX 1. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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APPENDIX 2.**STATEMENTS OF COMORES, MAURITIUS, THE UNITED KINGDOM (BIOT) AND FRANCE (OT)****(a) Comores****Agenda Item: 8 and repeated for 9**

Under international law, the Comorian territory was an archipelago composed of 4 islands, including Mayotte. Several resolutions of the UN, the AU, the League of Arab States and other international organizations condemn the presence of a foreign entity on the Island of Mayotte.

Moreover, the legal instruments deposited with the United Nations on the delimitation of maritime borders with the countries of the region include Mayotte.

Consequently, the Union of Comoros will never accept that international law be flouted and its territorial integrity called into question.

In order to ensure sustainable fishing in the Indian Ocean region, the Comoros support the initiative to set up a quota system in the Indian Ocean region taking into account fishing histories and recalls that the Island of Mayotte is an integral part of the Comorian territory and therefore, historical catch data from Mayotte waters will be recorded for the benefit of the Comoros.

The Union of Comoros requests that this declaration be included in the report

(b) France (OT)**Agenda Item: 4**

"France declares that it does not recognize the Mauritian declaration as having any legal value, because it ignores the fact that the island of Tromelin is a French territory over which France constantly exercises full and complete sovereignty.

Thus, France enjoys the sovereign rights or jurisdiction conferred on it by international law in the Exclusive Economic Zone adjacent to the island of Tromelin. Meetings of Indian Ocean RFMOs are not the place to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty, but France stresses that it will continue to maintain a constructive dialogue with the Republic of Mauritius on this subject. »

Agenda Item: 8 and repeated for 9

France declares that it does not recognise the Comorian declaration as having any legal value, as it ignores the fact that the island of Mayotte is a French territory and an outermost region of the European Union over which France consistently exercises full and complete sovereignty.

Thus, France enjoys the prerogatives of jurisdiction conferred on it by international law in the Exclusive Economic Zone adjacent to the island of Mayotte. Meetings of Indian Ocean RFMOs are not the place to discuss issues of territorial sovereignty, but France stresses that it will continue to maintain a constructive dialogue with the Republic of the Comoros on this subject. »

(c) Mauritius**Agenda Item: 2**

Madam Chairperson,

I wish to draw the attention of the Commission to Resolution 73/295 entitled "Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965" which the UN General Assembly adopted on 22 May 2019 by an overwhelming majority of 116 votes to 6.

This Resolution, *inter alia*, explicitly affirms, in accordance with the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of 25 February 2019, that the UK's excision of the Chagos Archipelago from the territory of Mauritius in 1965 was in breach of international law and that the continued administration of the Chagos Archipelago by the UK is a wrongful act of a continuing character under international law. The Resolution therefore demands that the UK terminate withdraw its unlawful administration unconditionally within a period of no more than 6 months from the date of adoption of the resolution and urges Member States as well as specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to cooperate with the UN to ensure the completion of the decolonization of Mauritius and to refrain from impeding that process

by recognizing or giving effect to any measure taken by or on behalf of the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory”. Particular mention is made in the Resolution for specialized agencies of the UN not to recognize the so-called “BIOT”.

Madam Chairperson,

It follows from UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295 that under the rules and principles of international law, the Republic of Mauritius is the sole State lawfully entitled to exercise sovereignty and sovereign rights over the Chagos Archipelago and its maritime zones. This position has been consistently maintained by the Republic of Mauritius.

The Resolution confirms the legitimate position of the Republic of Mauritius that the UK cannot claim membership of the IOTC as a coastal State on the basis of the Chagos Archipelago.

In the light of the foregoing, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius strongly objects to the participation of the United Kingdom or the so-called “United Kingdom (OT)” delegation in this Session and to the ‘Letter of Credentials’ which it has purportedly submitted to the Executive Secretary. It also requests that the ‘Letter of Credentials’ of the UK delegation or the so-called “United Kingdom (OT)” delegation should not be uploaded on the meeting pages of the IOTC website.

Pursuant to the letter which the Government of the Republic of Mauritius has addressed on 10 June 2019 to the Director-General of the FAO, with copy to the Executive Secretary of IOTC, my delegation requests the Commission to apply the procedure for termination of the UK’s membership in the IOTC as a ‘coastal State situated wholly or partly within the area of competence’ of the IOTC as defined in Article II of the Agreement for the Establishment of the IOTC.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

Reply to the UK (BIOT) intervention:

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius also believes that the work of this Commission should not be distracted, but, at the same time, there is a need to clarify certain issues mentioned by the UK delegation.

The UK side stated that it had no doubt as to its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago. It is only the UK who has that view. Fourteen (14) judges of the ICJ have looked at the case on the Chagos Archipelago and none of these judges had said that the UK had sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago. Earlier, five (5) judges of the Arbitral Tribunal, have considered the case of the unlawful declaration of the purported ‘MPA’ and none of them had even suggested that the UK might have sovereignty on the Chagos Archipelago. The UK side should stop being in denial. The UK had never had any sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago save when the UK colonized Mauritius. The present position is that the colonization of Mauritius has not been completed and the UK has to terminate its administration of the Chagos Archipelago as rapidly as the ICJ stated, and as required by the General Assembly Resolution 73/295.

The UK side referred to the circumvention of the principle of consent. The Mauritius side urges the UK side to look at the separate opinion of the Vice-President Xue, Judge of the ICJ, where it had been made clear that the principle of consent had not in any manner been circumvented, and that it was proper for the Court to give the opinion it gave.

The UK side had stated that the Advisory Opinion of the ICJ was not legally binding. The delegation of the Republic of Mauritius agrees with this but it is brought to the attention of the UK side that whilst the advisory opinion of the ICJ is not binding, the ICJ as the highest legal authority, is able to say what is the state of international law, namely international law and customary law in 1965. And the Court established that in 1965, the right of self-determination was very much part of international customary law.

Therefore, what the UK did in 1965 was a violation of international law so the binding nature of the UK to terminate its administration of the Chagos Archipelago does not emanate from the Advisory Opinion but from international law. The UK is required under international law to terminate its unlawful administration of the Chagos Archipelago.

The delegation of the Republic of Mauritius does not want to detract from the work but the work of the Commission needs to be done in full respect of the law and international law. This issue is extremely important as there is one member before this forum who is not supposed to be here as a ‘coastal State’ and this needs to be addressed.

Agenda Items: 4

Madam Chairperson,

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates that the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, and the Island of Tromelin form an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reaffirms that pursuant to UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295, the IOTC cannot validly under international law recognize the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory” (“BIOT”). The United Kingdom cannot and does not have sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius further reiterates that the United Kingdom is not entitled to be a member of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) as it is not a “coastal State situated wholly or partly within the Area [of competence of the Commission]”. Nor can the so-called “BIOT” claim to be a member of the IOTC on the basis of Article IV of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. The continued administration of the Chagos Archipelago by the UK constitutes a continued internationally wrongful act.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius strongly objects to the use of terms such as “United Kingdom (OT)”, “UK (OT)” and “UK territories” in documents which have been circulated for this meeting, in so far as these terms purport to refer to the Chagos Archipelago as a British territory or to imply that the United Kingdom is entitled to be a member of the IOTC as a coastal State or that the so-called “BIOT” can claim to be a member of the IOTC. The Government of the Republic of Mauritius requests that wherever any of these terms have been used, they should be deleted and any texts referring to or attributed to such territories be deleted.

On 20 December 2010, the Republic of Mauritius initiated proceedings against the United Kingdom under Article 287 of, and Annex VII to, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to challenge the legality of the ‘marine protected area’ (‘MPA’) which the United Kingdom purported to establish on 1 April 2010 around the Chagos Archipelago. The Arbitral Tribunal constituted under Annex VII to UNCLOS to hear the dispute delivered its Award on 18 March 2015. The Tribunal ruled that in establishing the ‘MPA’ around the Chagos Archipelago, the United Kingdom breached its obligations under Articles 2(3), 56(2) and 194(4) of UNCLOS.

Since the ‘MPA’ purportedly established by the United Kingdom around the Chagos Archipelago is illegal in the light of the Award of the Arbitral Tribunal, the findings of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of 25 February 2019 and the provisions of UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295, it cannot be enforced. Any reference to or consideration given by the IOTC, including this meeting, to the purported ‘MPA’ will be in contradiction with international law. The Government of the Republic of Mauritius urges the Commission to ensure compliance with the Award of the Arbitral Tribunal, the findings of the ICJ and UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295.

Moreover, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius rejects the sovereignty claim of France over the Island of Tromelin as well as France’s claim to any sovereign right or jurisdiction over the Exclusive Economic Zone adjacent to the Island of Tromelin. Further, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius does not recognize the validity of the inclusion of the Island of Tromelin in the French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF) or the Scattered Islands/Iles Eparses. The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reaffirms that the Republic of Mauritius has full and complete sovereignty over the Island of Tromelin, including its maritime zones.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius also objects to the use of terms such as “France (OT)” in documents which have been circulated for this meeting, in so far as these terms purport to refer to the Island of Tromelin as a French territory.

Any consideration of any document which purports to refer to the Island of Tromelin as a French territory or use terms such as “France (OT)”, as well as any action or decision that may be taken on the basis of any such document, cannot and should not be construed in any way whatsoever as implying that France has sovereignty or analogous rights over the Island of Tromelin or that the Island of Tromelin is part of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF) or the Scattered Islands/Iles Eparses or is a French territory.

In the light of the foregoing, the delegation of the Republic of Mauritius has no objection to the adoption of the draft agenda, subject to:

- (a) an item being included therein for the Commission to apply the procedure for termination of the UK’s membership of the IOTC as a coastal State situated wholly or partly within the area of competence of the IOTC;
- (b) there being no consideration of any document purportedly submitted by the United Kingdom, including in respect of the so-called “BIOT”, “UK (OT)” or “United Kingdom (OT)” which cannot be recognized by the IOTC, and any other document submitted by the Secretariat or any other party in relation to the so-called “BIOT”, “UK (OT)”, “United Kingdom (OT)” or “UK territories”; and
- (c) there being no discussions at this meeting on the ‘MPA’ purportedly established by the United Kingdom around the Chagos Archipelago which has been held to be illegal under international law.

The Republic of Mauritius also reserves all its rights under international law, including under Article XXIII of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

This statement is applicable to all agenda items and documents of this Session of the Commission.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

Reply to the France (OT) and UK (BIOT) interventions:

Chair: This is clearly a global issue, an important matter – as agency of UN, we need to abide by UN rules – However, when I look at delegations to this meeting, I can understand that they may not have the skills required nor statements from the ministries responsible for foreign affairs. It is therefore proposed to put in in next year’s agenda.

Additional intervention 1:

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius fully agrees with the Chair’s comments that the delegations present at this meeting may not have had the chance to address this issue fully, given that the United Nations General Assembly has only adopted the resolution some 2-3 weeks ago, so the delegation of the Government of the Republic of Mauritius support your proposal to include the item in the agenda of the next session. In preparation for that meeting, we request the FAO, as a specialized agency of the UN, to produce a paper on how it proposes to implement Resolution 73/295 in particular paragraph 6 of that Resolution which specifically addresses the responsibility of specialized agencies and in respect of which the Office of Legal Affairs of the UN has issued clear instructions.

Additional intervention 2:

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius wants to emphasise that this is not a bilateral issue. There have already been pronouncements from the ICJ and UNGA. One therefore fails to see how it can be said that this is a bilateral issue. This is clearly not a bilateral issue but one which requires the collaboration of the whole United Nations.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates that the work to be undertaken needs to be in respect of the law and international law.

As regards the ICJ, if any country thinks that the ICJ has not done its work properly or circumvented a principle, that country should take that matter to the ICJ and not waste the important time of this Commission.

The Delegation of the Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates that an item for the Commission to apply the procedure for the termination of the UK's membership of the IOTC as a coastal State will be included in the agenda of the next session, be added to the agenda of the next Commission meeting.

Agenda Item: 8

Madam Chairperson,

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius has serious reservations about the proposal submitted by Maldives and other Contracting Parties.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius reaffirms that the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, and the Island of Tromelin form an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius and that it rejects the sovereignty claims of the United Kingdom and France over the Chagos Archipelago and the Island of Tromelin respectively. It also reiterates that pursuant to UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295, the IOTC cannot recognize the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory". Further, the United Kingdom is not entitled to be a member of the IOTC as a coastal State as defined in Article II of the Agreement establishing the IOTC. Nor can the unlawful so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory" claim to be a member of the IOTC. The ICJ and the UNGA have determined that the UK never lawfully qualified for such membership.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius wishes to point out that the United Kingdom and France cannot and should not be granted any baseline allocation in respect of the Chagos Archipelago and the Island of Tromelin respectively.

The baseline allocation for the Republic of Mauritius should take into account the maritime zones of the Republic of Mauritius around the Chagos Archipelago and the Island of Tromelin as well.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius has similar reservations about the proposal submitted by the European Union.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

(d) United Kingdom (BIOT)**Agenda Item: 2**

The UK has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, which has been under continuous British sovereignty since 1814. Mauritius has never held sovereignty over the Archipelago and we do not recognise its claim. No international court or tribunal, including the March 2015 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) ad hoc arbitral tribunal, has ever found the United Kingdom's sovereignty to be in doubt.

However, we have a long-standing commitment, first made in 1965, to cede sovereignty of the territory to Mauritius when it is no longer required for defence purposes. We stand by that commitment.

We were disappointed that this matter was referred to the International Court of Justice and the UN General Assembly, contrary to the principle that the Court should not consider bilateral disputes without the consent of both States concerned. Nevertheless, the United Kingdom respects the ICJ and participated fully in the ICJ process at every stage and in good faith. An Advisory Opinion is advice provided to the United Nations General Assembly at its request; it is not a legally binding judgment. The UK Government has considered the content of the Opinion carefully, however we do not share the Court's approach.

The Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission provides that IOTC membership shall be open, inter alia, to FAO members that are situated wholly or partly within the IOTC's Area of Competence. As the British Indian Ocean Territory is situated wholly within the IOTC's Area of Competence, there can therefore be no doubt that the United Kingdom, as the State with sovereignty over BIOT as aforementioned, is entitled to be a member of IOTC. The United Kingdom is a Party to the IOTC Agreement and a Member of the IOTC and deposited its instruments of acceptance of the IOTC Agreement on 31st March 1995 and has been a party to the agreement since it entered into force. The IOTC is not a forum to discuss issues of sovereignty. As such, we are full members of the IOTC and have every right to be here.

The United Kingdom regrets the continued use of this important multilateral forum by the Republic of Mauritius to address a bilateral matter. This only serves to distract from the important work of IOTC members to combat the regional IUU threat and other matters considered by this Committee.

Additional intervention

The UK refers to its previous statement but underlines that no international court, or tribunal, has ever found UK sovereignty to be in doubt. The ICJ in a non-binding Advisory Opinion had given a view on the administration of Chagos. [The Advisory Opinion did not determine sovereignty of BIOT].

The BIOT Marine Protected Area (MPA), which the UK declared in 2010, is highly valued by scientists from many countries. They consider it a global reference site for marine conservation in an ocean which is heavily overfished.

The Arbitral Tribunal was clear that it took no view on the substantive quality or nature of the MPA; its concern was confined to the manner in which it was established. The Tribunal found that the UK needed to have further consultation with Mauritius about the establishment of the MPA in order to have due regard to its rights and interests. Implementation of the Tribunal's Award has started with a series of bilateral talks, the latest of which took place in August 2016.

The UK is committed to implementing the Arbitral Tribunal Award. In line with the Award, the UK will continue to work with Mauritius to agree the best way to meet our obligation to ensure fishing rights in the territorial sea remain available to Mauritius, so far as practicable. The Arbitral Award did not require the termination of the MPA but the UK will continue to approach discussions with an open mind about the best way to ensure proper conservation management of this unique marine environment.

The UK rejects the Mauritian request to include this on the Agenda for this Commission and it was inappropriate for this meeting to consider issues of sovereignty.

The UK records its objection to the inclusion of this issue, as a bilateral dispute, on a future agenda. We recognise the Chair's point that agencies would proceed in accordance with rules of procedure, including adoption of the future agenda in the normal way.

Agenda Item: 4

The UK records its objection to the inclusion of this issue, as a bilateral dispute, on a future agenda. We recognise the Chair's point that agencies would proceed in accordance with rules of procedure, including adoption of the future agenda in the normal way.

Agenda Item: 8

The UK has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, which has been under continuous British sovereignty since 1814.

APPENDIX 3.**AGENDA OF THE 23RD SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION****Date:** 17-21 June 2019**Location:** Hyderabad, India **Venue:** Hotel Novotel Conference Centre**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00 daily**Chairperson:** Susan Imende (Kenya)

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**
- 2. LETTERS OF CREDENTIALS**
- 3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS**
- 4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** — IOTC-2019-S23-01d (draft agenda)
- 5. UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION IN 2018 (S22)** — IOTC-2019-S23-03
- 6. AMENDMENTS TO THE IOTC PROCEDURES**
 - 6.1. Outcomes of the work of the small drafting group on the rules of procedure relating to the appointment of an Executive Secretary** (verbal update from the small drafting group)
 - 6.2. Proposal to amend Appendix V - the Compliance Committee terms of reference and rules of procedure** — IOTC-2019-S23-04 (European Union)
 - 6.3. Amendments to the IOTC Financial Regulations** — IOTC-2019-SCAF16-09 (SCAF Chairperson)
 - 6.4. Clarification on the eligibility of Chairpersons and Vice-chairpersons of IOTC working parties** — IOTC-2019-S23-05
- 7. REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** — IOTC-2018-SC21-R
 - 7.1. Overview of the 2018 SC21 Report** (SC Chairperson)
 - 7.2. IOTC Strategic Science Plan 2020-2024** — IOTC-2019-S23-11
 - 7.3. The status of tropical and temperate tunas**
 - 7.4. Matters related to ecosystems, bycatch and the status of sharks**
 - 7.5. The status of neritic tunas**
 - 7.6. The status of billfish**
- 8. INTRODUCTION TO CMM PROPOSALS**
 - Proposal B: on an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence (Rep. Korea)
 - Proposal K: on an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence (European Union)
 - Proposal S: on an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock (South Africa & Maldives)
 - Proposal P: On a management procedure for yellowfin tuna in the IOTC Area of Competence (Australia et al)

- Proposal D: On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC Area of competence (Seychelles).
- Proposal I: On the conservation of mobulid rays caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence (European Union).
- Proposal O: On the conservation of mobula and manta rays caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence (Maldives).
- Proposal J: On a regional observer scheme (European Union)
- Proposal A: On the allocation of fishing opportunities for IOTC species (Maldives et al)
- Proposal M: Establishing a quota allocation system for the main targeted species in the IOTC Area of Competence (European Union).
- Proposal C: On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (Indonesia)
- Proposal N: On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (Maldives)
- Proposal E: Concerning the IOTC Record of Vessels Authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence (Seychelles)
- Proposal R: Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information (South Africa).
- Proposal F: On vessel chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence (Seychelles)
- Proposal Q: On vessel chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence (South Africa)
- Proposal G: Procedures on A FADs Management Plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs (...) of non-target species (Seychelles)
- Proposal H: Procedures on A FADs Management Plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs (...) of non-target species (European Union)
- Proposal L: On marking of fishing gear and prevention of marine pollution (European Union).

9. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA —IOTC-2019-TCAC05-R

9.1. Overview of the TCAC05 Report (Secretariat on behalf of the TCAC Chairperson)

10. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES —IOTC-2019-TCMP03-R

10.1. Overview of the TCMP03 Report (TCMP Chairperson)

10.2. Review the need for a continuation of the TCMP — IOTC-2019-S23-08

11. REPORT OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE —IOTC-2019-CoC16-R

11.1. Overview of the CoC16 Report (CoC Vice-Chairperson)

11.2. Adoption of the List of IUU Vessels

11.3. Requests for accession to the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party

12. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE —IOTC-2019-SCAF16-R

12.1. Overview of the SCAF16 Report (SCAF Chairperson)

12.2. Programme of Work and Budget of the Commission

12.3. Schedule of meetings for 2020-2021

13. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON PERFORMANCE REVIEW —IOTC-2019-TCPR02-R

13.1. Overview of the TCPR02 Report (TCPR Chairperson)

- 13.2. Progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2nd IOTC Performance Review Panel**
—IOTC-2019-S23-06
- 13.3. Discussion on the institutional link with FAO** — No document, but refer to IOTC Circular 2018-10
- 13.4. Discussion on the amendments to the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission** —IOTC-2019-S23-07
- 14. REPORT OF THE SCOPING STUDY ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA AND INDICATORS OF IOTC FISHERIES** —
IOTC-2019-S23-13_Rev1 (Consultant)
- 15. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES**
- 15.1. Current Conservation and Management Measures that require action by the Commission in 2019** —
IOTC-2019-S23-08
- 15.2. Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement** —IOTC-2019-S23-09
- 15.3. Any remaining proposals for Conservation and Management Measures.**
- 16. CONSIDERATION OF THE IOTC REGIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME DRAFT STANDARDS** —IOTC-2019-S23-10_Rev1
- 16.1. Overview of the process and outcomes related to the development of the ROS standards and guidelines.**
- 17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 17.1. Cooperation with other organisations and institutions**
- Proposal for a Letter of Understanding with CCSBT — IOTC-2019-S23-12
 - Other cooperation
- 17.2. Date and place of the 24th and 25th Sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies for 2019 and 2020**
- 18. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMISSION**
- 19. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 23RD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

APPENDIX 4.
LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document	Title
IOTC–2019–S23–01a	Draft agenda for S23 (v18 April).
IOTC–2019–S23–01b	Draft agenda for S23 (v20May).
IOTC–2019–S23–01c	Draft agenda for S23 (v14June).
IOTC–2019–S23–01d	Draft agenda for S23 (v16June).
IOTC–2019–S23–02	List of documents.
IOTC–2019–S23–03	Progress on requests for action made by the Commission in 2018.
IOTC–2019–S23–04	Proposal to amend Appendix V of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (European Union).
IOTC–2019–S23–05	Eligibility of chairpersons of IOTC working parties.
IOTC–2019–S23–06_Rev1	Progress on the implementation of performance review recommendations.
IOTC–2019–S23–07	Draft IOTC Agreement texts.
IOTC–2019–S23–08	Conservation and Management Measures requiring action by the Commission in 2019.
IOTC–2019–S23–09	Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement.
IOTC–2019–S23–10_Rev1	IOTC Regional Observer Scheme standards.
IOTC–2019–S23–11	IOTC Strategic Science Plan 2020-2024
IOTC–2019–S23–12	Draft Letter of Agreement between IOTC and CCSBT
IOTC–2019–S23–13_Rev1	Scoping study of socio-economic data and indicators of IOTC fisheries
IOTC–2019–S23–14	Note from the legal office of FAO
<i>CMM proposals</i>	
IOTC–2019–S23–PropA	On the allocation of fishing opportunities for IOTC species (Maldives, South Africa, Australia, Comoros, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Pakistan, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania).
IOTC–2019–S23–PropB_Rev1	On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence (Rep. Korea)
IOTC–2019–S23–PropC	On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (Indonesia)
IOTC–2019–S23–PropD	On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC Area of competence (Seychelles).
IOTC–2019–S23–PropE	Concerning the IOTC Record of Vessels Authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence (Seychelles)
IOTC–2019–S23–PropF	On vessel chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence (Seychelles)
IOTC–2019–S23–PropG	Procedures on A FADs Management Plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs (...) of non-target species (Seychelles)
IOTC–2019–S23–PropH	Procedures on A FADs Management Plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs (...) of non-target species (European Union)
IOTC–2019–S23–PropI	On the conservation of mobulid rays caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence (European Union).

Document	Title
IOTC-2019-S23-PropJ	On a regional observer scheme (European Union).
IOTC-2019-S23-PropK	On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC Area of Competence (European Union)
IOTC-2019-S23-PropL	On marking of fishing gear and prevention of marine pollution (European Union).
IOTC-2019-S23-PropM	Establishing a quota allocation system for the main targeted species in the IOTC Area of Competence (European Union).
IOTC-2019-S23-PropN	On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (Maldives)
IOTC-2019-S23-PropO	On the conservation of mobula and manta rays caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence (Maldives).
IOTC-2019-S23-PropP	On a management procedure for yellowfin tuna in the IOTC Area of Competence (Australia, Indonesia, Maldives, South Africa)
IOTC-2019-S23-PropQ	On vessel chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence (South Africa)
IOTC-2019-S23-PropR	Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC area of competence and access agreement information (South Africa).
IOTC-2019-S23-PropS	On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock (South Africa & Maldives)
Reference documents	
IOTC Circular 2018-10	Preparation for the commission to make a decision on whether IOTC should remain within the FAO Framework or become a separate legal entity.
IOTC Circular 2018-42	Regarding the membership of Sierra Leone
Relevant reports from other meetings	
IOTC-2019-CoC16-R	Report of the 16 th session of the IOTC Compliance Committee (not yet available).
IOTC-2019-SCAF16-R	Report of the 16 th session of the IOTC Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (not yet available).
IOTC-2019-SCAF16-09	Proposed amendments to the IOTC Financial Regulations.
IOTC-2019-TCAC05-R	Report of the 5th session of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria.
IOTC-2019-TCMP03-R	Report of the 3rd session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures (not yet available).
IOTC-2019-TCPR02-R	Report of the 2nd session of the Technical Committee on Performance Review.
IOTC-2018-SC21-R	Report of the 21st session of the IOTC Scientific Committee
Information papers	
IOTC-2019-S23-INF01	Earth Island Institute statement
IOTC-2019-S23-INF02	Korea's position statement
IOTC-2019-S23-INF03	ISSF position statement
IOTC-2019-S23-INF04	International Game Fish Association position statement
IOTC-2019-S23-INF05	IUCN-CEM_TOC survey on derelict fishing gear
IOTC-2019-S23-INF06	Global Sustainability Appeal for IOTC-NGO Tuna Forum
IOTC-2019-S23-INF07	IPNLF Policy Statement 2019

Document	Title
IOTC-2019-S23-INF08	Pew on Ensuring safe and decent working and living conditions for fishers in the Indian Ocean
IOTC-2019-S23-INF09	Pew on Recommendations to Assist with Allocation of the IMO Ship Identification Scheme as Required in the IOTC Convention Area by Resolution 15/04
IOTC-2019-S23-INF10	WWF POSITION for the 23rd session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
IOTC-2019-S23-INF11	IOTC Joint NGO position statement 2019
IOTC-2019-S23-INF12	FPAOI_Statment_2019
IOTC-2019-S23-INF13_Rev1	FAD WATCH PAPER
IOTC-2019-S23-INF14	A case study on the management of yellowfin tuna by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IOTC-2019-S23-INF15	Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative
IOTC-2019-S23-INF16	IOTC_UK Market Statement
IOTC-2019-S23-INF17	SIOTI and OPAGAC Joint FIP letter

APPENDIX 5.
REVISIONS TO THE IOTC FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The original and amended Financial Regulations are presented in the table below. Insertions and deletions to the original version of the Financial Regulations are highlighted in ***bold italic*** and strikethrough respectively.

Regulation I - Applicability

1. These regulations shall govern the financial administration of the INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION.	No change.
2. The financial rules and procedures of FAO shall apply to the activities of the Commission for matters not covered by these Regulations.	No change.

Regulation II - The Financial Period

The financial period shall be one calendar year.	The financial period shall be one calendar year, <i>commencing from January 1 and ending 31 December, both dates inclusive.</i>
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Regulation III - The Budget

1. The Budget Estimates shall be prepared by the Secretary of the Commission and shall be circulated to all Members of the Commission not less than 60 days before each regular session.	1. The Budget Estimates <i>The Operating Budget for the current year and the draft budget for the ensuing and following year</i> shall be prepared by the <i>Executive Secretary</i> of the Commission and shall be circulated to all <i>Contracting Parties (Members)</i> of the Commission not less than 60 days before <i>the commencement of</i> each regular session.
2. The Budget Estimates shall cover income and expenditures for the financial period to which they relate, and shall be presented in United States dollars.	2. <i>The Operating Budget for the current year and the draft budget for the ensuing and following year</i> The Budget Estimates shall cover income and expenditures for the financial period to which they relate, and shall be presented in United States dollars <i>(US\$)</i> .
3. The Budget Estimates shall reflect the programme of work for the financial period elaborated by appropriate information and data, and shall include the programme of work and such other information, annexes or explanatory statements as may be requested by the Commission.	3. <i>The Operating Budget for the current year and the draft budget for the ensuing and following year</i> The Budget Estimates shall reflect the programme of work for the financial period elaborated by appropriate information and data, and shall include the programme of work and such other information, annexes or explanatory statements as may be requested by the Commission
4. The Budget shall comprise:	4. The Budget shall comprise:

<p>(a) The Administrative Budget referred to in paragraph 5 relating to the regular contributions of Members of the Commission payable under Article XIII.1 of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and expenditures chargeable to the budget of the Commission under Article VIII, paragraphs 3 and 4: The Administrative Budget shall reflect in an appropriate manner the expenses to be borne by FAO under Article VIII, paragraph 3;</p>	<p>(a) The Administrative Budget referred to in paragraph 5 relating to the regular contributions of Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission payable under Article XIII.1 of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (the Agreement) and expenditures chargeable to the budget of the Commission under Article VIII, paragraphs 3 and 4: The Administrative Budget shall reflect in an appropriate manner the expenses to be borne by FAO under Article VIII, paragraph 3;</p>
<p>(b) The Special Budgets relating to funds made available during the financial period from donations and other forms of assistance received from organizations, individuals and other sources under Article XIII, paragraph 6.</p>	<p>(b) The Special Budgets relating to funds made available during the financial period referred to in Paragraph 7 relating to special budgets proposed by the Executive Secretary. from donations and other forms of assistance received from organizations, individuals and other sources under Article XIII, paragraph 6.</p>
	<p>New (c) (c) The Trusts Funds referred to in Article VI, Paragraph 1 relating to funds available during the financial period from donations and other forms of assistance received from organizations, individuals and other sources.</p>
<p>5. The Administrative Budget for the financial period shall consist of provisions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative Expenditures, including an amount to cover the Organization's costs equal to 4.5% of the total Budget of the Commission. - Expenditure for the activities of the Commission. Estimates under this chapter may be presented in a single total only but detailed estimates for each particular project will be prepared and approved as "supplementary details" of the Administrative Budget. - Contingencies. 	<p>5. The Administrative Budget for the financial period shall consist of provisions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative Expenditures, including an amount to cover the Organization's FAO's Project Servicing costs equal to 4.5% of the total Budget of the Commission. - Expenditure for the activities of the Commission. Estimates under this chapter may be presented in a single total only but detailed estimates for each particular project will be prepared and approved as "supplementary details" of the Administrative Budget. - Contingencies that cover expenditures that exceed operating costs - Working Capital as stipulated in Article IV, Paragraph 5.
<p>6. The Administrative Budget shall be adopted by the Commission with such amendments as the Commission may deem necessary.</p>	<p>6. The Administrative Budget shall be considered by the Standing Committee of Finance and Administration (SCAF) and adopted by the Commission with such amendments as the Commission be deemed necessary.</p>
	<p>New 7. A mid-term review of the current year shall be prepared by the Secretariat and shall be considered by SCAF and adopted by the Commission reflecting any changes in appropriations</p>

Old 7. Special Budgets may be adopted by the Commission in exceptional circumstances as appropriate.	New 8. Special Budgets may be proposed by the Executive Secretary and adopted by the Commission in exceptional circumstances as appropriate. Special Budget proposals shall be prepared in a form consistent with the approved budget. The provisions of these regulations shall be applicable to the proposed special budget to the extent possible.
Old 8. The Administrative Budget of the Commission shall be submitted to the Finance Committee of the Organization for its information	New 9. The Administrative Budget of the Commission shall be submitted to the Finance Committee of the Organization the Organization FAO for its information.

Regulation IV - Appropriations

1. After the budgets have been adopted the appropriations therein shall constitute be the authority for the Commission to incur obligations and make payments for the purposes for which the appropriations were voted and up to the amounts so voted.	No change
2. In cases of emergency, the Commission is authorized to accept additional contributions from a Member or Members of the Commission or grants from other sources and incur expenditure against them for emergency action for which the said contributions or grants were specifically provided. Such contributions or grants and expenditure relating thereto will be reported in detail to the next session of the Commission.	2. In cases of emergency, the The Executive Secretary on advice from the Chairperson of the Commission is authorized to accept additional contributions from a Contracting Party (Member) or Contracting Parties (Members) of the Commission or grants from other sources and incur expenditure against them for emergency action for which the said contributions or grants were specifically provided. Such contributions or grants and expenditure relating thereto will be reported in detail to the next regular session of the Commission.
3. Any unliquidated prior year obligation shall be cancelled or where an obligation remains a valid charge, transferred against current appropriations.	No change
4. Transfers between provisions as per Regulation 3.5 may be effected by the Commission on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Commission.	4. Transfers between provisions as per Regulation 3.5 may be effected by the Commission on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Commission The Executive Secretary may authorize the transfer of up to [15] percent of appropriations between sub-items as specified in Article III.5 of this Regulation upon approval from the Chairperson of the Commission until a mid-term review. The Executive Secretary may authorize the transfer of up to [10] percent after a mid-term review. All such transfers must be reported to the next regular session of the Commission.
	New 5. 5. The Commission shall establish a working capital fund for the purpose of accommodating operating expenditures prior to the receipts of funds from members of the Commission. The source of this working capital fund shall be surplus appropriations accumulated over the years. The Commission shall consider

	<p><i>establishing a rules of procedure for the operation of the working capital fund which will include a mechanism to fund the working capital fund if there are no surplus appropriations. The Contracting Parties shall not interpret the funds in working capital as a means of avoiding contributions.</i></p>
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Regulation V - Provision of Funds

<p>1. The appropriations of the Administrative Budget shall be financed by contributions from Members of the Commission determined and payable in accordance with Article XIII paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of the Agreement. Pending receipt of annual contributions, the Commission is authorized to finance budgeted expenditure from the uncommitted balance of the Administrative Budget.</p>	<p>1. The appropriations of the Administrative Budget shall be financed by:</p> <p>a) contributions from <i>Contracting Parties (Members)</i> of the Commission determined and payable in accordance with Article XIII paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of the Agreement. Pending receipt of annual contributions, the <i>Executive Secretary</i> Commission is authorized to finance budgeted operating expenditures, or other such expenditures the Commission may approve, from the Working Capital Fund; from the uncommitted balance of the Administrative Budget.</p> <p>b) Voluntary contributions made by members, CNCPs or other entities;</p> <p>c) Other funds to which the Commission may become entitled or may receive.</p>
<p>2. Before the beginning of each calendar year the Secretary shall inform the Commission's Members of their obligations in respect of annual contributions to the budget.</p>	<p>2. Before the beginning of each calendar year the the Following the adoption of the budget, the Executive Secretary shall inform the Commission's Contracting Parties (Members) of their obligations in respect of annual contributions to the budget, in addition to any arrears that Members have incurred.</p>
<p>3. Contributions shall be due and payable in full within 30 days of the receipt of the communication of the Secretary referred to in Regulation V.2 above, or as of the first days of the calendar year to which they relate, whichever is later. As of 1 January of the following calendar year, the unpaid balance of such contributions shall be considered to be one year in arrears.</p>	<p>Amended and moved to the annex.</p>
<p>4. The annual contributions to the Administrative Budget shall be assessed in United States dollars and shall be calculated in accordance with the scheme annexed to these Regulations and forming an integral part thereof. The contributions shall be paid in US dollars unless otherwise determined by the Commission.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
<p>5. Any new Member of the Commission shall pay a contribution to the budget in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII, paragraph 3 of the Agreement for the financial period in which the membership becomes effective, such contribution beginning with the quarter in which membership is acquired.</p>	<p>5. Any new Contracting Party (Member) of the Commission shall pay a contribution to the budget in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII, paragraph 3 of the Agreement for the financial period in which the membership becomes effective, such contribution beginning with the quarter in which membership is acquired.</p>
	<p>New 6.</p> <p>6. The Executive Secretary shall submit to each regular session of the Commission a report on the collection of funds from Members of the Commission, any voluntary</p>

	<i>contributions, or any other revenue received, and any advances made from the Working Capital Fund.</i>
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Regulation VI - Funds

1. All contributions, donations and other forms of assistance received shall be placed in a Trust Fund administered by the Director-General in conformity with the Financial Regulations of FAO.	1. All contributions, donations and other forms of assistance received from organisations, individuals and other sources under Article XIII, paragraph 6 of the Agreement , shall may be placed in a Trust Fund administered by the Director-General in conformity with the Financial Regulations of FAO.
	New 2. 2. The purpose and limits of each trust fund, reserve and special account shall be clearly defined by the Commission.

Old 2. With respect to the Trust Fund referred to in Regulation VI.1, the Organization shall maintain accounts: 2.1 A General Account to which shall be credited receipts of all contributions paid under Article XIII, paragraph 1 and from which shall be met all expenditure chargeable against the sums allocated to the annual Administrative Budget. 2.2 Such additional accounts as may be necessary to which shall be credited the additional contributions under Regulation IV.2 and from which shall be met all expenditures relating thereto.	New 3. With respect to the Trust Fund referred to in Regulation VI.1, the Organization FAO shall maintain accounts: 3.1 A General Account to which shall be credited receipts of all contributions paid under Article XIII, paragraph 1 and from which shall be met all expenditure chargeable against the sums allocated to the annual Administrative Budget. 3.2 Such additional accounts as may be necessary to which shall be credited the additional contributions under Regulation IV.2 and from which shall be met all expenditures relating thereto,
	New 4. The Executive Secretary shall submit a report indicating the status of the Trust Fund to each regular session of the Commission.

Regulation VII

These Regulations may be amended by the Commission in accordance with Article VI, paragraph 7.	No change.
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ANNEX

Scheme for Calculation of Contributions to the Administrative Budget of the Commission

1. Ten percent of the total budget of the Commission shall be divided equally among all the Members.	Ten percent of the total budget of the Commission shall be divided equally among all the Contracting Parties (Members).
2. Ten percent of the total budget shall be divided equally among the Members having fishing operations in the Area targeting species covered by the Commission.	2. Ten percent of the total budget shall be divided equally among the Contracting Parties (Members) having fishing operations in the IOTC Area of competence targeting species covered by the Commission, for the period specified in paragraph 4 below .
3. Forty percent of the total budget shall be allocated among the Members on the basis of per caput GNP for the calendar year three years before the year to which the contributions relate, weighted according to the economic status of the Members in accordance with the World Bank classification as follows and subject to change in the classification thresholds: high income Members shall be weighted by the factor of 8; middle income Members by the factor of 2; low-income Members by the factor of 0.	3. Forty percent of the total budget shall be allocated among the Contracting Parties (Members) on the basis of per caput GNP GNI (per capita, Atlas method (current US\$) as registered 60 days before the regular session of the Commission meeting of the current year) for the calendar year three years before the year to which the contributions relate, weighted according to the economic status of the Contracting Parties (Members) in accordance with the World Bank classification as follows and subject to change in the classification thresholds (where the GNI for a particular Contracting Parties (Members) is not made available by the World Bank, the previous year's value shall be used): a) high income Contracting Parties (Members) shall be weighted by the factor of 8; b) middle income Contracting Parties (Members) by the factor of 2; c) low-income Contracting Parties (Members) by the factor of 0.
4. Forty percent of the total budget shall be allocated among the Members in proportion to their average catch in the three calendar years beginning with the year five years before the year to which the contributions relate, weighted by a coefficient reflecting their development status. The coefficient of OECD members and EC shall be 1, and the coefficient of other Members shall be one-fifth.	4. Forty percent of the total budget shall be allocated among the Contracting Parties (Members) in proportion to their average catch (rounded to the nearest whole ton) in the three calendar years beginning with the year five years before the year to which the contributions relate, weighted by a coefficient reflecting their development status. The coefficient of OECD members and EC European Union shall be 1, and the coefficient of other Contracting Parties (Members) shall be one-fifth.
Old Regulation V.3 (moved to this annex). Contributions shall be due and payable in full within 30 days of the receipt of the communication of the Secretary referred to in Regulation V.2 above, or as of the first days of the calendar year to which they relate, whichever is later. As of 1 January of the following calendar year, the unpaid balance of such contributions shall be considered to be one year in arrears.	New 5 (dates in square brackets will be determined by the Commission) 5. Contributions shall be due and payable in full as soon as possible and not later than [date] within 30 days of the receipt of the communication of the Secretary referred to in Regulation V.2 above, or as of the first days of the calendar year to which they relate, whichever is later. As of 1 January [date] in the calendar year to which the contributions relate of the following calendar year, the unpaid balance of such contributions shall be considered to be one year in arrears.

APPENDIX 6.

STOCK STATUS SUMMARIES FOR THE IOTC SPECIES: 2018

More information can be found in IOTC-2018-SC21-R

*Estimated probability that the stock is in the respective quadrant of the Kobe plot (shown below), derived from the confidence intervals associated with the current stock status.

Colour key	Stock overfished ($SB_{year}/SB_{MSY} < 1$)	Stock not overfished ($SB_{year}/SB_{MSY} \geq 1$)
Stock subject to overfishing ($F_{year}/F_{MSY} > 1$)		
Stock not subject to overfishing ($F_{year}/F_{MSY} \leq 1$)		
Not assessed/Uncertain		

Temperate and tropical tuna stocks: main stocks being targeted by industrial, and to a lesser extent, artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal states.

Stock	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Advice to the Commission
Albacore <i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Catch 2017: 38,347 t Average catch 2013–2017: 36,004 t MSY (1000 t) (80% CI): 38.8 (33.9–43.6) FMSY (80% CI): 0.07 (–) SBMSY (1000 t) (80% CI): 30.0 (26.1–34.0) F2014/FMSY (80% CI): 0.85 (0.57–1.12) SB2014/SBMSY (80% CI): 1.80 (1.38–2.23) SB2014/SB1950 (80% CI): 0.37 (0.28–0.46)						Although considerable uncertainty remains in the SS3 assessment, particularly due to the lack of biological information on Indian Ocean albacore tuna stocks, a precautionary approach to the management of albacore tuna should be applied by capping total catch levels to MSY levels (38,800 t).
Bigeye tuna <i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Catch in 2017: 90,050 t Average catch 2013–2017: 95,997 t MSY (1000 t) (80% CI): 104 (87–121) FMSY (80% CI): 0.17 (0.14–0.20) SBMSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 525 (364–718) F2015/FMSY (80% CI): 0.76 (0.49–1.03) SB2015/SBMSY (80% CI): 1.29 (1.07–1.51) SB2015/SB0 (80% CI): 0.38 (n.a. – n.a.)			84%			No new stock assessment was carried out for bigeye tuna in 2018, thus, the stock status is determined on the basis of the 2016 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2018, the bigeye tuna stock is determined to be not overfished and is not subject to overfishing . If catch remains below the estimated MSY levels, then immediate management measures are not required. However, continued monitoring and improvement in data collection, reporting and analysis is required to reduce the uncertainty in assessments.

Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	<p>Catch in 2017: 524,282 t</p> <p>Average catch 2013–2017: 454,103 t</p> <p>Yield_{40%SSB} (1000 t) (80% CI): 510.1 (455.9–618.8)</p> <p>C₂₀₁₆/C_{40%SSB} (80% CI): 0.88 (0.72–0.98)</p> <p>SB₂₀₁₆ (1000 t) (80% CI): 796.66 (582.65–1,059.29)</p> <p>910.4 (873.6–1195)</p> <p>Total biomass B₂₀₁₆ (1000 t) (80% CI):</p> <p>SB₂₀₁₆/SB_{40%SSB} (80% CI): 1.00 (0.88–1.17)</p> <p>SB₂₀₁₆/SB₀ (80% CI): 0.40 (0.35–0.47)</p> <p>E_{40%SSB} (80% CI): 0.59 (0.53–0.65)</p> <p>SB₀ (80% CI): 2,015,220 (1,651,230–2,296,135)</p>			47%			<p>No new stock assessment was carried out for skipjack tuna in 2018, thus, stock status is determined on the basis of the 2016 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018.. The 2017 stock assessment model results differ substantively from the previous (2014 and 2011) assessments, for a number of reasons. The final overall estimate of stock status indicates that the stock is at the target biomass reference point and that the current and historical fishing mortality rates are estimated to be below the target. Thus, on the weight-of-evidence available in 2018, the skipjack tuna stock is determined to be not overfished and is not subject to overfishing.</p> <p>Total catches in 2017 were 12% larger than the resulting catch limit from the skipjack HCR for the period 2018–2020. It should be noted that skipjack catches for most gears have increased from 2016 to 2017 (+10% for purse seine, +16% for gillnet and +17% for baitboats. The Commission needs to ensure that catches of skipjack in the 2018–2020 period do not exceed the agreed limit.</p>
Yellowfin tuna <i>Thunnus albacares</i>	<p>Catch in 2017: 409,567 t</p> <p>Average catch 2013–2017: 399,830 t</p> <p>MSY (1000 t) (plausible range): 403 (339–436)</p> <p>F_{MSY} (plausible range): 0.15 (0.13–0.17)</p> <p>SB_{MSY} (1,000 t) (plausible range): 1069 (789–1387)</p> <p>F₂₀₁₇/F_{MSY} (plausible range): 1.20 (1.00–1.71)</p> <p>SB₂₀₁₇/SB_{MSY} (plausible range): 0.83 (0.74–0.97)</p> <p>SB₂₀₁₇/SB₀ (plausible range): 0.30 (0.27.–0.33)</p>		94%	68%		<p>A new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin tuna in 2018. The assessment results were only based on a grid of 24 SS3 model runs which are recognized as insufficient to explore the spectrum of uncertainties and scenarios, noting the large uncertainty associated with data quality (e.g., spatial representativeness of CPUE coverage, estimation of catch and inconsistency in length-frequency) and lack of considering model statistical uncertainty. It is noted that the quantified uncertainty in stock status is likely underestimating the underlying uncertainty of the assessment. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2017, the yellowfin tuna stock is determined to be overfished and subject to overfishing.</p> <p>The decline in stock status to below MSY level is not well understood due to various uncertainties. As a precautionary measure, the Commission should ensure that catches are reduced to end overfishing and allow the SSB to recover to SSB_{MSY} levels. At this stage, specific catch limits are not provided.</p> <p>A workplan has been developed to address the issues identified in the assessment review, aimed at increasing the Committee’s ability to provide more concrete and robust advice by the 2019 meeting of the Scientific Committee. The workplan is scheduled to start in January 2019 and aims at addressing the issues identified by the WPTT and the external reviewer. The draft workplan is attached as Appendix 38 of the 2018 Scientific Committee Report (IOTC-2018-SC21-R).</p>	

Billfish: The billfish stocks are exploited by industrial and artisanal fisheries throughout the Indian Ocean, both on the high seas and in the EEZ of coastal states. While marlins and sailfish are not usually targeted by most fleets, they are caught and retained as byproduct by the main industrial fisheries, and are also important for localised small-scale and artisanal fisheries or as targets in sports and recreational fisheries.

Stock	Indicators		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Advice to the Scientific Committee
Swordfish <i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Catch 2017: Average catch 2013–2017: MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): F _{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI): SB _{MSY} (80% CI): F ₂₀₁₅ /F _{MSY} (80% CI): SB ₂₀₁₅ /SB _{MSY} (80% CI): SB ₂₀₁₅ /SB ₁₉₅₀ (80% CI):	34,782t 31,405t 31.59 (26.30–45.50) 0.17 (0.12–0.23) 43.69 (25.27–67.92) 0.76 (0.41–1.04) 1.50 (1.05–2.45) 0.31 (0.26–0.43)						No new stock assessment was carried out for swordfish in 2018, thus, the stock status is determined on the basis of the 2017 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018. There are some uncertainties in the catch estimates from the Indonesian fresh tuna longline; an alternative catch history was used in the base case stock assessment. Most recent catches are at the MSY level (31,590 t). On the weight-of-evidence available in 2018, the stock is determined to be not overfished and not subject to overfishing . The most recent catches (34,782 t in 2017) are higher than the MSY level (31,590 t). The catches should be reduced to the MSY level (31,590 t).
Black marlin <i>Makaira indica</i>	Catch 2017: Average catch 2013–2017: MSY (1000 t) (80% CI): F _{MSY} (80% CI): B _{MSY} (1000 t) (80% CI): F ₂₀₁₇ /F _{MSY} (80% CI): B ₂₀₁₇ /B _{MSY} (80% CI): B ₂₀₁₇ /B ₁₉₅₀ (80% CI):	21,250 t 18,673t 12.93 (9.44-18.20) 0.18 (0.11-0.30) 72.66 (45.52-119.47) 0.96 (0.77-1.12) 1.68 (1.32-2.10) 0.62 (0.49-0.78)						A stock assessment based on JABBA was conducted in 2018 for black marlin. This assessment suggests that the point estimate for the stock in 2017 is in the green zone in the Kobe plot with F/F _{MSY} =0.96 (0.77-1.12) and B/B _{MSY} =1.68 (1.32-2.10). The Kobe plot from the JABBA model indicated that the stock is not subject to overfishing and is currently not overfished , however these status estimates are subject to a high degree of uncertainty. The recent sharp increases in total catches (e.g., from 15,000 t in 2014 to over 20,000 t since 2016, mostly due to increases by I.R. Iran and India), and conflicts in information in CPUE and catch data lead to large uncertainties in the assessment outputs. This caused the point estimate of the stock status to change from the red to the green zones of the Kobe plot without any evidence of a rebuilding trend. As such, the results of the assessment are uncertain and should be interpreted with caution.
Blue marlin <i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Catch 2017: Average catch 2013–2017: MSY (1000 t) (80% CI): F _{MSY} (80% CI): B _{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI): F ₂₀₁₅ /F _{MSY} (80% CI): B ₂₀₁₅ /B _{MSY} (80% CI): B ₂₀₁₅ /B ₁₉₅₀ (80% CI):	12,155 t 11,635 t 11.93 (9.23–16.15) 0.11 (0.08–0.16) 113 (71.7 – 162.0) 1.18 (0.80–1.71) 1.11 (0.90–1.35) 0.56 (0.44 – 0.71)					46.8%	No stock assessment was carried out in 2018. The stock status based on BSP-SS stock assessment carried out in 2016 suggests that the stock status in 2015 is in the orange zone in the Kobe plot and both F and B are close to their MSYs, i.e., F/F _{MSY} =1.18 and B/B _{MSY} =1.11. Two other approaches examined in 2016 came to similar conclusions, namely ASPIC and SS3. The results of the assessment in 2016 from the BSP-SS model indicated that the stock was subject to overfishing but not overfished in 2015. The uncertainty in the catch data available at the time of the assessment and the CPUE series suggests that the advice should be interpreted with caution. A decrease in longline effort from 2005 to 2011 lowered the fishing pressure on the Indian Ocean stock, but catches in recent years have been increasing. Current catches exceed the catch limit as stipulated in Resolution 18/05. The Commission should provide mechanisms to ensure the catch limits are not exceeded in the future.

<p>Striped marlin <i>Tetrapturus audax</i></p>	<p>Catch 2017: 3,082t Average catch 2013–2017: 3,587t MSY (1,000 t) (JABBA): 4.73 (4.27–5.18) F_{MSY} (JABBA): 0.26 (0.20–0.34) B_{MSY} (1,000 t) (JABBA): 17.94 (14.21–23.13) F₂₀₁₇/F_{MSY} (JABBA): 1.99 (1.21–3.62) B₂₀₁₇/B_{MSY} (JABBA): 0.33 (0.18–0.54) SB₂₀₁₇/SB_{MSY} (SS3): 0.373 B₂₀₁₇/K(JABBA): 0.12 (0.07–0.20) SB₂₀₁₇/SB₁₉₅₀ (SS3): 0.13 (0.09–0.14)</p>	<p>3,082t 3,587t 4.73 (4.27–5.18) 0.26 (0.20–0.34) 17.94 (14.21–23.13) 1.99 (1.21–3.62) 0.33 (0.18–0.54) 0.373 0.12 (0.07–0.20) 0.13 (0.09–0.14)</p>					<p>99.8%</p>	<p>A new stock assessment for striped marlin was carried out in 2018, based on two different models. Both models were very consistent and confirmed the results from 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2017 assessments, indicating that the stock is subject to overfishing ($F > F_{MSY}$) and overfished, with the biomass for at least the past ten years is below the level which would produce MSY ($B < B_{MSY}$). On the weight-of-evidence available in 2018, the stock status of striped marlin is determined to be overfished and subject to overfishing.</p> <p>Current or increasing catches have a very high risk of further decline in the stock status. Current 2017 catches are lower than MSY (4,730 t) but the stock has been overfished for more than two decades and is now in a highly depleted state. If the Commission wishes to recover the stock to the green quadrant of the Kobe plot with a probability ranging from 60% to 90% by 2026, it needs to provide mechanisms to ensure the maximum annual catches remain between 1,500 t – 2,200 t.</p>
<p>Indo-Pacific Sailfish <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i></p>	<p>Catch 2017: 33,280 t Average catch 2013–2017: 29,873 t MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 25.00 (16.18–35.17) F_{MSY} (80% CI): 0.26 (0.15–0.39) B_{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI): 87.52 (56.30–121.02) F₂₀₁₄/F_{MSY} (80% CI): 1.05 (0.63–1.63) B₂₀₁₄/B_{MSY} (80% CI): 1.13 (0.87–1.37) B₂₀₁₄/B₁₉₅₀ (80% CI): 0.56 (0.44–0.67)</p>	<p>33,280 t 29,873 t 25.00 (16.18–35.17) 0.26 (0.15–0.39) 87.52 (56.30–121.02) 1.05 (0.63–1.63) 1.13 (0.87–1.37) 0.56 (0.44–0.67)</p>						<p>No new stock assessment was carried out for Indo-Pacific sailfish in 2018, thus, the stock status is determined on the basis of the 2015 assessment and other indicators presented in 2018. In 2015, data poor methods for stock assessment using Stock Reduction Analysis (SRA) techniques indicated that the stock is not yet overfished, but is subject to overfishing. The stock appears to show a continued increase catches which is a cause of concern indicating that fishing mortality levels may be becoming too high. Aspects of the biology, productivity and fisheries for this species combined with the data poor status on which to base a more formal assessment are also a cause for concern. On the weight-of-evidence available in 2018, the stock is determined to be still not overfished but subject to overfishing.</p> <p>The catch limits as stipulated in Resolution 18/05 have been exceeded. The Commission should provide mechanisms to ensure that catch limits are not exceeded by all concerned fisheries.</p>

Neritic tunas and mackerel: These six species have become as important or more important as the three tropical tuna species (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) to most IOTC coastal states. Neritic tunas and mackerels are caught primarily by coastal fisheries, including small-scale industrial and artisanal fisheries, and are almost always caught within the EEZs of coastal states. Historically, catches were often reported as aggregates of various species, making it difficult to obtain appropriate data for stock assessment analyses.

Stock	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Advice to the Commission
<p>Bullet tuna <i>Auxis rochei</i></p>	<p>Catch 2017: 11,094 t Average catch 2013–2017: 9,959 t MSY (1,000 t) unknown F_{MSY} : unknown B_{MSY} (1,000 t): unknown F_{current}/F_{MSY}: unknown B_{current}/B_{MSY} : unknown B_{current}/B₀: unknown</p>						<p>For assessed species of neritic tunas in Indian Ocean (longtail tuna, kawakawa and narrow barred Spanish mackerel), the MSY was estimated to have been reached between 2009 and 2011 and both F_{MSY} and B_{MSY} were breached thereafter. Therefore, in the absence of a stock assessment of bullet tuna a limit to the catches should be considered by the Commission, by ensuring that future catches do not exceed the average catches estimated between 2009 and 2011 (8,870 t). The reference period (2009–2011) was chosen based on the most recent assessments of those neritic species in the Indian Ocean for which an assessment is available under the assumption that also for bullet tuna MSY was reached between 2009 and 2011. This catch advice should be maintained until an assessment of bullet tuna is available. Considering that MSY-based reference points for assessed species can change over time, the stock should be closely monitored. Mechanisms need to be developed by the Commission to improve current statistics by encouraging CPCs to comply with their recording and reporting requirements, so as to better inform scientific advice.</p>

Stock	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Advice to the Commission
Frigate tuna <i>Auxis thazard</i>	Catch 2017: 74,686 t Average catch 2013–2017: 86,117 t MSY (1,000 t): unknown F_{MSY} : unknown B_{MSY} (1,000 t): unknown $F_{current}/F_{MSY}$: unknown $B_{current}/B_{MSY}$: unknown $B_{current}/B_0$: unknown						For assessed species of neritic tunas in Indian Ocean (longtail tuna, kawakawa and narrow barred Spanish mackerel), the MSY was estimated to have been reached between 2009 and 2011 and both F_{MSY} and B_{MSY} were breached thereafter. Therefore, in the absence of a stock assessment of frigate tuna a limit to the catches should be considered by the Commission, by ensuring that future catches do not exceed the average catches estimated between 2009 and 2011 (94,921 t). The reference period (2009–2011) was chosen based on the most recent assessments of those neritic species in the Indian Ocean for which an assessment is available under the assumption that also for bullet tuna MSY was reached between 2009 and 2011. This catch advice should be maintained until an assessment of frigate tuna is available. Considering that MSY-based reference points for assessed species can change over time, the stock should be closely monitored. Mechanisms need to be developed by the Commission to improve current statistics by encouraging CPCs to comply with their recording and reporting requirements, so as to better inform scientific advice.
Kawakawa <i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	Catch 2017: 159,752 t Average catch 2013–2017: 157,300 t MSY (1,000 t): 152 [125–188] F_{MSY} : 0.56 [0.42–0.69] B_{MSY} (1,000 t): 202 [151–315] F_{2013}/F_{MSY} : 0.98 [0.85–1.11] B_{2013}/B_{MSY} : 1.15 [0.97–1.38] B_{2013}/B_0 : 0.58 [0.33–0.86]						Although the stock status is classified as not overfished and not subject to overfishing, the Kobe strategy II matrix developed in 2015 showed that there is a 96% probability that biomass is below MSY levels and 100% probability that $F > F_{MSY}$ by 2016 and 2023 if catches are maintained at the 2013 levels. There is a 55% probability that biomass is below MSY levels and 91% probability that $F > F_{MSY}$ by 2023 if catches are maintained at around 2016 levels. The modelled probabilities of the stock achieving levels consistent with the MSY reference points (e.g. $SB > SB_{MSY}$ and $F < F_{MSY}$) in 2023 are 100% for a future constant catch at 80% of 2013 catch levels. If catches are reduced by 20% based on 2013 levels at the time of the assessment (170,181 t), the stock is expected to recover to levels above MSY reference points with a 50% probability by 2023.
Longtail tuna <i>Thunnus tonggol</i>	Catch 2017: 135,006 t Average catch 2013–2017: 139,856 t MSY (1,000 t): 140 (103–184) F_{MSY} : 0.43 (0.28–0.69) B_{MSY} (1,000 t): 319 (200–623) F_{2015}/F_{MSY} : 1.04 (0.84–1.46) B_{2015}/B_{MSY} : 0.94 (0.68–1.16) B_{2015}/B_0 : 0.48 (0.34–0.59)					67%	There is a substantial risk of exceeding MSY-based reference points by 2018 if catches are maintained at current (2015) levels (63% risk that $B_{2018} < B_{MSY}$, and 55% risk that $F_{2018} > F_{MSY}$) (Table 2). If catches are reduced by 10% this risk is lowered to 33% probability $B_{2018} < B_{MSY}$ and 28% probability $F_{2018} > F_{MSY}$. If catches are capped at current (2015) levels at the time of the assessment (i.e. 136,849 t), the stock is expected to recover to levels above MSY reference points with at least a 50% probability by 2025. Catches have remained below estimated MSY since 2015.
Indo-Pacific king mackerel <i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i>	Catch 2017: 49,905 t Average catch 2013–2017: 46,814 t MSY (1,000 t): Unknown F_{MSY} : Unknown B_{MSY} (1,000 t): Unknown $F_{current}/F_{MSY}$: Unknown $B_{current}/B_{MSY}$: Unknown $B_{current}/B_0$: Unknown						For assessed species of neritic tunas in Indian Ocean (longtail tuna, kawakawa and narrow barred Spanish mackerel), the MSY was estimated to have been reached between 2009 and 2011 and both F_{MSY} and B_{MSY} were breached thereafter. Therefore, in the absence of a stock assessment of Indo-Pacific king mackerel a limit to the catches should be considered by the Commission, by ensuring that future catches do not exceed the average catches estimated between 2009 and 2011 (46,787 t). The reference period (2009–2011) was chosen based on the most recent assessments of those neritic species in the Indian Ocean for which an assessment is available under the assumption that also for Indo-Pacific king mackerel MSY was reached between 2009 and 2011. This catch advice should be maintained until an assessment of Indo-Pacific king mackerel is available. This catch advice should be maintained until an assessment of Indo-Pacific king mackerel is available. Considering that MSY-based reference points for assessed species can change over time, the stock should be closely monitored. Mechanisms need to be developed by the Commission to improve current statistics by encouraging CPCs to comply with their recording and reporting requirements, so as to better inform scientific advice.

Stock	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Advice to the Commission
Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Catch 2017 ² : 159,370 t Average catch 2013–2017: 160,812 t MSY (1,000 t) : 131 [96–180] F_{MSY} : 0.35 [0.18–0.7] B_{MSY} (1,000 t) : 371 [187–882] F_{2015}/F_{MSY} : 1.28 [1.03–1.69] 0.89 [0.63–1.15] $B_{2015} B_{MSY}$: 0.44 [0.31–0.57] B_{2015}/B_0 :					89%	There is a continued high risk of exceeding MSY-based reference points by 2025, even if catches are reduced to 80% of the 2015 levels (73% risk that $B_{2025} < B_{MSY}$, and 99% risk that $F_{2025} > F_{MSY}$). The modelled probabilities of the stock achieving levels consistent with the MSY reference levels (e.g. $B > B_{MSY}$ and $F < F_{MSY}$) in 2025 are 93% and 70%, respectively, for a future constant catch at 70% of current catch level. If catches are reduced by 30% of the 2015 levels at the time of the assessment, which corresponds to catches below MSY, the stock is expected to recover to levels above the MSY reference points with at least a 50% probability by 2025.

Sharks: Although sharks are not part of the 16 species directly under the IOTC mandate, sharks are frequently caught in association with fisheries targeting IOTC species. Some fleets are known to actively target both sharks and IOTC species simultaneously. As such, IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties are required to report information at the same level of detail as for the 16 IOTC species. The following are the main species caught in IOTC fisheries, although the list is not exhaustive.

Stock	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Advice to the Commission
Blue shark <i>Prionace glauca</i>	Reported catch 2017: 27,259 t Estimated catch 2015: 54,735 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks 2017: 56,883 t Average reported catch 2013–17: 29,790 t Average estimated catch 2011–15: 54,993 t Ave. (nei) sharks ² 2012–16: 51,712 t MSY (1,000 t) (80% CI): 33.1 (29.5-36.6) F_{MSY} (80% CI) : 0.30 (0.30-0.31) SSB_{MSY} (1,000 t) (80% CI) : 38.9 (35.5-45.4) F_{2015}/F_{MSY} (80% CI) : 0.90 (0.67-1.09) SSB_{2015}/SSB_{MSY} (80% CI) : 1.50 (1.37-1.72) SSB_{2015}/SSB_0 (80% CI) : 0.52 (0.46-0.56)					72.6%	Even though the blue shark in 2017 is assessed to be not overfished nor subject to overfishing, current catches are likely to result in decreasing biomass and making the stock become overfished and subject to overfishing in the near future (Table 3). If the catches are reduced at least 10%, the probability of maintaining stock biomass above MSY reference levels ($B > B_{MSY}$) over the next 8 years will be increased (Table 3). The stock should be closely monitored. While mechanisms exist for encouraging CPCs to comply with their recording and reporting requirements (Resolution 18/07), these need to be further implemented by the Commission, so as to better inform scientific advice in the future.
Oceanic whitetip shark <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Reported catch 2017: 48 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 56,883t Average reported catch 2013–2017: 230 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 51,712 t						There is a paucity of information available for these species and this situation is not expected to improve in the short to medium term. There is no quantitative stock assessment and limited basic fishery indicators currently available. Therefore the stock status is highly uncertain. The available evidence indicates considerable risk to the stock status at current effort levels. The primary source of data that drive the assessment (total catches) is highly uncertain and should be investigated further as a priority.
Scalloped hammerhead shark <i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Reported catch 2017: 118 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 56,883t Average reported catch 2013–2017: 76 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 51,712 t						
Shortfin mako <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Reported catch 2017: 1,664 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 56,883t Average reported catch 2013–2017: 1,555 t Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: 51,712 t						

Silky shark <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Reported catch 2017: Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: Average reported catch 2013-2017: Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks:	2,175 t 56,883t 2,967 t 51,712 t						
Bigeye thresher shark <i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Reported catch 2017: Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: Average reported catch 2013-2017: Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks:	0 t 56,883t 0 t 51,712 t						
Pelagic thresher shark <i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	Reported catch 2017: Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks: Average reported catch 2013-2017: Not elsewhere included (nei) sharks:	0 t 56,883t 0 t 51,712 t						

APPENDIX 7.
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES ADOPTED IN 2019

RESOLUTION 19/01
ON AN INTERIM PLAN FOR REBUILDING THE INDIAN OCEAN YELLOWFIN
TUNA STOCK IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Keywords: Yellowfin tuna, Kobe Process, MSY, Precautionary Approach

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

CONSIDERING the objectives of the Commission to maintain stocks in perpetuity and with high probability, at levels not less than those capable of producing their maximum sustainable yield as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors including the special requirements of developing States in the IOTC area of competence;

BEING MINDFUL of Article XVI of the IOTC Agreement regarding the rights of Coastal States and of Article 87 and 116 of the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea regarding the right to fish on the high seas;

RECOGNISING the special requirements of the developing States, particularly Small Island developing States in Article 24, of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of December 1982, relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA);

RECALLING that Article 5, of UNFSA entitles the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks are based on best scientific evidence available and with special reference to Resolution 15/10 for a stock where the assessed status places it within the red quadrant, and with an aim to end overfishing with a high probability and to rebuild the biomass of the stock in as short time as possible;

FURTHER RECALLING that Article 6, of UNFSA and IOTC Resolution 12/01 On the implementation of the precautionary approach, requires the States to be cautious during the application of precautionary approach when information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate and this should not be a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures;

CONSIDERING the recommendations adopted by the KOBE II, held in San Sebastian, Spain, June 23 – July 3 2009; implementing where appropriate a freeze on fishing capacity on a fishery by fishery basis and such a freeze should not constrain the access to, development of, and benefit from sustainable tuna fisheries by developing coastal States;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the recommendations adopted by the KOBE III, held in La Jolla, California, 12- 14 July 2011; considering the status of the stocks, each RFMO should consider a scheme for reduction of overcapacity in a way that does not constrain the access to, development of, and benefit from sustainable tuna fisheries, including on the high seas, by developing coastal States, in particular Small Island Developing States, territories, and States with small and vulnerable economies; and Transfer of capacity from developed fishing members to developing coastal fishing members within its area of competence where appropriate;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the report by International Council for the Exploration of Sea and FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour (2006), Gillnets are considered to be one of the least catch controllable and least environmentally sustainable gears;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the recommendations of the 18th Scientific Committee held in Bali, Indonesia, 23 – 27 November 2015 and the 21st session of the Scientific Committee held in Seychelles, 3 – 7 December 2018, that the catches of yellowfin tuna have to be reduced by 20% of the 2017 levels to recover the stocks to levels above the interim target reference points with 50% probability by 2027 as specified in Kobe II Strategy Matrix;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the management advice of the 21st session of the Scientific Committee on the limitations and uncertainties in the stock assessment;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the concern of the 20th Session of the Working Party for Tropical Tuna held in Seychelles, 29 October – 3 November 2018, the change in strategy by increase of usage of FADs by the purse seine vessels to maintain catch level targets has led to a substantial increase of juvenile yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna;

NOTING THAT supply vessels contribute to the increase in effort and capacity of purse seiners and that the number of supply vessels has increased significantly over the years;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the call by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/75 upon the States to increase the reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures and to take into account the special requirements of developing States, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as highlighted in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;

NOTING THAT Article V.2b of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission give full recognition to the special interests and needs of Members in the region that are developing countries, in relation to the conservation and management and optimum utilization of stocks covered by this Agreement and encouraging development of fisheries based on such stocks;

FURTHER NOTING THAT Article V.2d requires the Commission to keep under review the economic and social aspects of the fisheries based on the stocks covered by this Agreement bearing in mind, in particular, the interests of developing coastal States. This includes ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by it do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, especially Small Island Developing States;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the interactions that occur between the fisheries for yellowfin, skipjack and bigeye tuna;

CONSIDERING paragraph 12 of Resolution 16/01 [superseded by Resolution 17/01, then by Resolution 18/01] that allows the Commission to review this Interim Plan before 2019;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

Application

1. This resolution shall apply to all fishing vessels targeting tuna and tuna like species in the Indian Ocean of 24 meters overall length and over, and those under 24 meters if they fish outside the EEZ of their flag State, within the IOTC Area of Competence.
2. The measures contained within this Resolution shall be considered as interim measure and will be reviewed by the Commission no later than at its annual Session in 2020.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, this Resolution shall be reviewed when a formal Management Procedure for the management of the yellowfin tuna stock is adopted by the Commission and in effect.
4. Nothing in this resolution shall pre-empt or prejudice future allocation of fishing opportunities.

Catch limits

5. **Purse seine:** CPCs whose purse seine catches of yellowfin reported for 2014 were above 5000 MT to reduce their purse seine catches of yellowfin by 15 % from the 2014 levels.
6. **Gillnet:** CPCs whose Gillnet catches of yellowfin reported for 2014 were above 2000 MT to reduce their Gillnet catches of yellowfin by 10 % from the 2014 levels.
7. **Longline:** CPCs whose Longline catches of yellowfin reported for 2014 were above 5000 MT to reduce their Longline catches of yellowfin by 10 % from the 2014 levels.
8. **CPCs' other gears:** CPCs whose catches of yellowfin from other gears reported for 2014 were above 5000 MT to reduce their other gear catches of yellowfin by 5 % from the 2014 levels.
9. In applying the catch reductions by gears in provisions in paragraph 5, 6, 7 and 8, Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries can either choose between catches of yellowfin tuna reported for either 2014 or 2015. For such CPCs Paragraph 13(a) is applicable over the accumulated catch in 2018 and 2019.
10. Exceptionally for 2019 and 2020, Small Island Developing States CPCs that contributed less than 4% of the total yellowfin catch of the Indian Ocean in 2017, shall reduce their purse seine catch by 7.5% of 2018 levels.
11. Any CPC to whom para 5-10 do not apply and whose catches exceeded the threshold limits in any subsequent year (from 2017), shall reduce their catches to the levels prescribed for that particular gear as mentioned in paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8.
12. Flag States will determine appropriate methods for achieving these catch reductions, which could include capacity reductions, effort limits, *etc.*, and will report to the IOTC Secretariat in their Implementation Report every year.

Over catch of annual limit

13. If over-catch of an annual limit for a given fleet of a CPC listed in paragraph 5 to 10 occurs, catch limits for that fleet shall be reduced as follows:
 - a. If the accumulated catch in 2017, 2018 and 2019 exceeds the sum of the catch limit¹ for 2017, 2018 and 2019 the excess (over-catch) shall be deducted from the 2021 catch limit.
 - b. For 2020 and following years, 100% of that over-catch shall be deducted from the following two years limit; unless
 - c. Over-catch for that fleet has occurred in two or more consecutive years, in which case 125% of the over-catch shall be deducted from the following two years limit.
14. CPCs shall inform the Commission via the IOTC Compliance Committee, any reductions in the following year because of over catch in paragraph 13 in their implementation Report.
15. The revised limits will apply in the following year and CPCs compliance shall be assessed against the revised limits reported to the IOTC Compliance Committee.

Supply Vessels

16. CPCs shall gradually reduce supply vessels² by 31 December 2022 as specified below in (a), (b), and (c). Flag States shall submit the status of reducing the use of supply vessel as part of the report of Implementation

¹ Catch of Indonesia is based on the national reports submitted to the Scientific Committee

² For the purpose of this resolution, the term "supply vessel" includes "support vessel"

to the Compliance Committee.

- a) From 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019: 1 supply vessel in support of not less than 2 purse seiners, all of the same flag State³.
- b) From 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020: 2 supply vessels in support of not less than 5 purse seiners, all of the same flag State³.
- c) No CPC is allowed to register any new or additional supply vessel on the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels after 31 December 2017.

17. A single purse seine vessel shall not be supported by more than one single supply vessel of the same flag State at any point of time.
18. Complementary to Resolution 15/08 (superseded by Resolution 17/08, then by Resolution 18/08, then by Resolution 19/02) and to Resolution 15/02, CPC flag States shall report annually before the 1 January for the coming year of operations which Purse seiners are served by each supply vessel. This information will be published on IOTC website so as to be accessible to all CPCs and is mandatory.
19. CPCs shall report by 1 March 2019, the number of FADs that were deployed in 2018 and 2019 by purse seine vessels and associated supply vessels per 1°x1° grid.

Gillnet

20. Without prejudice to Article 16 of the IOTC Agreement, CPCs shall encourage phasing out or convert gillnet fishing vessels to other gears, considering the huge ecological impact of these gears and fast track the implementation of Resolution 17/07 *On the Prohibition to use large-scale driftnets in the IOTC*.
21. CPCs shall set their gillnets at 2m depth from the surface in gillnet fisheries by 2023 to mitigate ecological impacts of gillnets.
22. CPCs are encouraged to increase their observer coverage or field sampling in gillnet fishing vessels by 10% using alternative data collection methodologies (electronic or human) verified by the IOTC Scientific Committee by 2023.
23. CPCs shall report the level of implementation of para 21 - 23 to the IOTC Commission via the Compliance Committee.

Administration

24. The IOTC Secretariat, under advice of the Scientific Committee, shall prepare and circulate a table of allocated catch limits disaggregated as per the conditions set out in paragraphs 5 – 10 for preceding year, in December of the current year.
25. CPCs shall monitor the yellowfin tuna catches from their vessels in conformity with Resolution 15/01 *On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence* and Resolution 15/02 *Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non Contracting Parties (CPCs)* and will provide a summary of most-recent yellowfin catches for the consideration of the IOTC Compliance Committee.
26. For the purposes of the implementation of this resolution, CPCs shall submit their catches of yellowfin disaggregated for vessel 24 m overall length and over, and those under 24 m if they fish outside the EEZ as per resolution 15/02.
27. Each year, the Compliance Committee shall evaluate the level of compliance with the reporting obligations

³ The subparagraphs (a) and (b) shall not apply to flag States which use only one supply vessel

and the catch limits deriving from this Resolution and shall make recommendations to the Commission accordingly.

28. The Scientific Committee via its Working Party on Tropical Tunas shall implement the “Workplan to improve current assessment of yellowfin tuna” and shall advise the Commission the financial and administrative requirements to further strengthen the work undertaken to minimize the issues and complexities regarding yellowfin tuna stock assessment.
29. The Scientific Committee via its Working Party on Tropical Tunas shall in 2019 undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of the measures detailed in this Resolution, taking into account all sources of fishing mortality possible aiming at returning and maintaining biomass levels at the Commission’s target level.
30. This Resolution supersedes IOTC Resolution 18/01 *On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock*.

RESOLUTION 19/02
PROCEDURES ON A FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADS)
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Keywords: FAD, active instrumented buoy.

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

BEARING IN MIND that the Agreement for the implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) encourages coastal States and fishing States on the high seas to collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort;

MINDFUL of the call upon States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organisations and arrangements in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 67/79 on Sustainable fisheries to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and others, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental bycatch of non-target species, particularly sharks and marine turtles;

NOTING that the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing provides that States should compile fishery-related and other supporting scientific data relating to fish stocks covered by sub-regional or regional fisheries management organisations and provide them in a timely manner to the organisation;

RECOGNISING that Fish Aggregating Devices under the competence of IOTC should be managed to ensure the sustainability of fishing operations;

GIVEN that the activities of supply vessels and the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) are an integral part of the fishing effort exerted by the purse seine fleet;

AWARE that the Commission is committed to adopt Conservation and Management Measures to reduce juvenile Bigeye tuna and Yellowfin tuna mortalities from fishing effort on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs);

RECALLING that [Resolution 12/04](#) established that the Commission at its annual session in 2013 should consider the recommendations of the IOTC Scientific Committee as regards the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of marine turtles, including the use of biodegradable materials, together with socio-economic considerations, with a view to adopting further measures to mitigate interactions with marine turtles in fisheries covered by the IOTC Agreement;

RECALLING that Resolution 13/08 [superseded by Resolution 15/08, by Resolution 17/08, then by Resolution 18/08] established procedures on a fish aggregating device (FAD) management plan, including more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species;

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee advised the Commission that only non-entangling FADs, both drifting and anchored, should be designed and deployed to prevent the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species;

NOTING that the IOTC Scientific Committee advised the Commission to conduct an investigation of the feasibility and impacts of a temporary FAD closure as well as other measures in the context of Indian Ocean fisheries and stocks;

RECALLING that the objective of the IOTC Agreement is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of stocks covered by the mentioned Agreement and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries based on such stocks and minimising the level of bycatch;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. Definitions

For the purpose of this Resolution:

- a) Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) means a permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or device of any material, man-made or natural, which is deployed and/or tracked, for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species for consequent capture.
 - b) Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs) means a FAD not tethered to the bottom of the ocean. A DFAD typically has a floating structure (such as a bamboo or metal raft with buoyancy provided by buoys, corks, etc.) and a submerged structure (made of old netting, canvass, ropes, etc.).
 - c) Anchored Fish Aggregating Devices (AFADs) means a FAD tethered to the bottom of the ocean. It usually consists of a very large buoy and anchored to the bottom of the ocean with a chain.
 - d) Instrumented buoy means a buoy with a clearly marked with a unique reference number allowing identification of its owner and equipped with a satellite tracking system to monitor its position.
 - e) Operational buoy means any instrumented buoy, previously activated, switched on and deployed at sea on a drifting FAD or log, which transmit position and any other available information such as eco-sounder estimates.
 - f) Activation of a buoy means the act of initializing satellite communication service, which is done by the buoy supplier company at the request of the vessel owner or manager.
 - g) Deactivation of a buoy means the act of cancelling satellite communications service, which is done by the buoy supplier company at the request of the vessel owner or manager.
 - h) Buoy owner means any legal or natural person, entity or branch, who is paying for the communication service for the buoy associated with a FAD, and/or who is authorized to receive information from the satellite buoy, as well as to request its activation and/or deactivation.
 - i) Reactivation: the act of re-enabling satellite communications services by the buoy supplier company at the request of the buoy owner or manager.
 - j) Buoy in stock means an instrumented buoy acquired by the owner which has not been made operational.
2. This Resolution shall apply to CPCs having purse seine vessels and fishing on Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs), equipped with instrumented buoys for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species, in the IOTC area of competence. Only purse seiners and associated supply or support vessels are allowed to deploy DFADs in the IOTC Area of Competence.
 3. This resolution requires the use of instrumented buoy, as per the above definition, on all DFADs and prohibits the use of any other buoys, such as radio buoys, not meeting this definition.
 4. This Resolution sets the maximum number of operational buoys followed by any purse seine vessel at 300 at any one time. The number of instrumented buoys that may be acquired annually for each purse seine vessel is set at no more than 500. No purse seine vessel shall have more than 500 instrumented buoys (buoy in stock and operational buoy) at any time. An instrumented buoy shall be made operational only when physically present on board the purse-seine vessel to which it belongs or its associated supply or support

vessel, and the event shall be recorded in the appropriate logbook, specifying the instrumented buoy unique identification number and the date, time and geographical coordinates of its deployment.

5. A CPC may adopt a lower limit than the one set out in paragraph 4 for vessels flying its flag. Further, any CPC may adopt a lower limit for DFADs deployed in its EEZ than that stated in paragraph 4. The CPC shall review the adopted limit to ensure that such limit is not more than the limit fixed by the Commission.
6. CPCs shall ensure that as from the effective date of this Resolution, each of its purse seiners already in operation does not exceed the maximum number of operational and instrumented buoys at any one time as set out in paragraph 4.
7. All purse seine vessel, supply or support vessel shall declare to its respective CPC, the number of instrumented buoys onboard, including each unique identifier of the instrumented buoy before and after each fishing trip.
8. Reactivation of an instrumented buoy shall only be possible once it has been brought back to port, either by the vessel tracking the buoy/ associated supply or support vessel or by another vessel and has been authorized by the CPC.
9. Notwithstanding the completion of any study undertaken at the request of the Commission including the study to be undertaken by the Working Group adopted at Resolution 15/09 in relation to FADs, the Commission may review the maximum number of instrumented buoys set out in paragraph 4.
10. CPCs shall require vessels flying their flag and fishing on DFADs to annually submit the number of operational buoys followed by vessel, lost and transferred (total number of DFADs tagged at sea, by deploying an instrumented buoy on a log or another vessel DFAD already in the water) by 1° by 1° grid area and month strata and DFAD type under the confidentiality rules set by Resolution 12/02 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
11. All CPCs shall ensure that all fishing vessels as referred to in paragraph 2 shall record fishing activities in association with FADs using the specific data elements found in Annex III (DFAD) and Annex IV (AFAD) in the section of the “FAD-logbook”.
12. CPCs having vessels flying their flag and fishing on FADs shall submit, to the Commission, on an annual basis, Management Plans for the use of FADs. Due to their specificity in terms of users, type of boat/vessel involved, fishing method and gear used and materials used in their construction, the Management Plans and Reporting Requirements for Drifting FADs (DFAD) and Anchored FADs (AFAD) shall be addressed separately for the purposes of this Resolution. The Plans shall at a minimum follow the Guidelines for Preparation for FAD Management Plans by each CPC as provided for DFADs in Annex I and AFADs in Annex II.
13. The Management Plans shall be analysed by the IOTC Compliance Committee.
14. The Management Plans shall include initiatives or surveys to investigate, and to the extent possible minimise the capture of small bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna and non-target species associated with fishing on FADs. Management Plans shall also include guidelines to prevent, to the extent possible, the loss or abandonment of FADs.
15. In addition to the Management Plans, all CPCs shall ensure that all fishing vessels flying their flag and fishing on FADs, including supply vessels, shall record fishing activities in association with FADs using the specific data elements found in Annex III (DFAD) and Annex IV (AFAD).
16. CPCs shall submit to the Commission, 60 days before the Annual Meeting, a report on the progress of the management plans of FADs, including, if necessary, reviews of the initially submitted Management Plans, and including reviews of the application of the principles set out in Annex III.

Non-entangling and biodegradable FADs

17. To reduce the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles or any other species, CPCs shall require their flagged vessels to use non-entangling designs and materials in the construction of FADs as outlined in Annex V.
18. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials in FAD construction should be promoted. CPCs shall encourage their flag vessels to use biodegradable FADs in accordance with the guidelines at Annex V with a view to transitioning to the use of biodegradable FADs, with the exception of materials used for the instrumented buoys, by their flag vessel from 1 January 2022. CPCs shall, from 1 January 2022, encourage their flag vessels to remove from the water, retain onboard and only dispose of in port, all traditional FADs encountered (e.g. those made of entangling materials or designs). The reference year prescribed above shall be reviewed in light of the Scientific Committee's recommendation pursuant to Resolution 18/04 *On BioFAD experimental project*.
19. CPCs are encouraged to conduct trials using biodegradable materials to facilitate the transition to the use of only biodegradable material for DFADS construction by their flagged vessels. The results of such trials shall be presented to the Scientific Committee who shall continue to review research results on the use of biodegradable material on FADs and shall provide specific recommendations to the Commission as appropriate.

FAD Marking

20. A new marking scheme shall be developed by the ad-hoc FAD working group and shall be considered by the Commission at its regular annual session in 2020.
21. Until the marking scheme referred to in paragraph 20 is adopted, CPCs shall ensure that the instrumented buoy attached to the DFAD contain a physical, unique reference number marking (ID provided by the manufacturer of the instrumented buoy) and the vessel unique IOTC registration number clearly visible.

Data reporting and analysis

22. CPCs shall submit the data elements prescribed in Annex III and Annex IV to the Commission, consistent with the IOTC standards for the provision of catch and effort data, and these data shall be made available for analysis to the IOTC Scientific Committee on the aggregation level set by Resolution 15/02 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution), and under the confidentiality rules set by Resolution 12/02 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution).
23. The IOTC Scientific Committee will analyse the information, when available, and provide scientific advice on additional FAD management options for consideration by the Commission, including recommendations on the number of FADs to be operated, the use of biodegradable materials in new and improved FADs design. When assessing the impact of FADs on the dynamic and distribution of targeted fish stocks and associated species and on the ecosystem, the IOTC Scientific Committee will, where relevant, use all available data on abandoned FADs (i.e. FADs without a beacon or which have drifted outside the fishing zone).

FAD Tracking and Recovery Procedures

24. In order to support the monitoring of compliance with the limitation established in Paragraph 4, while protecting business confidential data, the instrumented buoy supplier company or the CPCs shall, starting 1 January 2020, report, or require their vessels to report, daily information on all active FADs to the Secretariat. Such information shall contain, date, instrumented buoy ID, assigned vessel and daily position, which shall be compiled at monthly intervals, to be submitted with a time delay of at least 60 days, but no longer than 90 days.

25. The Commission shall establish a DFAD tracking and recovery policy at its annual session in 2021, on the basis of recommendations from the ad-hoc FAD working group. The policy shall define DFAD tracking, reporting of lost DFADs, arrangements to alert coastal States of derelict/lost DFADs at risk of beaching in near real-time, how and who recovers the DFADs, how the recovery costs are collected and shared.
26. The IOTC Secretariat shall submit a report, on an annual basis, to the IOTC Compliance Committee on the level of compliance of each CPC with operational buoy limits, annual limits of instrumented buoys purchased.
27. This resolution shall be reviewed by the Commission, at the latest, at its session in 2022, based on recommendations from the Scientific Committee.
28. This resolution shall enter into force on 1 January 2020.
29. Resolution 18/08 *Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species* is superseded by this Resolution.

ANNEX I

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (DFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS

To support obligations in respect of the DFAD Management Plan (DFAD-MP) to be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by CPCs with fleets fishing in the IOTC area of competence, associated to DFADs, DFAD-MP should include:

1. An objective
2. Scope
 - Description of its application with respect to:
 - vessel-types and support and tender vessels
 - DFAD numbers and DFADs beacon numbers to be deployed
 - reporting procedures for DFAD deployment
 - incidental bycatch reduction and utilisation policy
 - consideration of interaction with other gear types
 - plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost DFADs
 - statement or policy on “DFAD ownership”
3. Institutional arrangements for management of the DFAD Management Plans:
 - institutional responsibilities
 - application processes for DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment approval
 - obligations of vessel owners and masters in respect of DFAD and /or DFAD beacons deployment and use
 - DFAD and/or DFADs beacons replacement policy
 - reporting obligations
4. DFAD construction specifications and requirements:
 - DFAD design characteristics (a description)
 - DFAD markings and identifiers, including DFADs beacons
 - lighting requirements
 - radar reflectors
 - visible distance
 - radio buoys (requirement for serial numbers)
 - satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
5. Applicable areas:
 - Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc.
6. Applicable period for the DFAD-MP.
7. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the DFAD-MP.
8. DFAD logbook template (data to be collected specified in Annex III).

ANNEX II
GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF ANCHORED FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (AFAD) MANAGEMENT PLANS

To support obligations in respect of the AFAD Management Plan (AFAD-MP) to be submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by CPCs with fleets fishing in the IOTC area of competence, associated to AFADs, AFAD-MP should include:

1. An objective
2. Scope:
 - Description of its application with respect to:
 - a) vessel types
 - b) AFAD numbers and/or AFADs beacons numbers to be deployed (per AFAD type)
 - c) reporting procedures for AFAD deployment
 - d) distances between AFADs
 - e) incidental bycatch reduction and utilisation policy
 - f) consideration of interaction with other gear types
 - g) the establishment of inventories of the AFADs deployed, detailing AFAD identifiers, characteristics and equipment of each AFAD as laid down in point 4 of the present Annex, coordinates of the AFAD's mooring sites, date of set, lost and reset
 - h) plans for monitoring and retrieval of lost AFADs
 - i) statement or policy on "AFAD ownership"
3. Institutional arrangements for management of the AFAD Management Plans:
 - a) institutional responsibilities
 - b) regulations applicable to the setting and use of AFADs
 - c) AFAD repairs, maintenance rules and replacement policy
 - d) data collection system
 - e) reporting obligations
4. AFAD construction specifications and requirements:
 - a) AFAD design characteristics (a description of both the floating structure and the underwater structure, with special emphasis on any netting materials used)
 - b) anchorage used for mooring
 - c) AFAD markings and identifiers, including AFAD beacons if any
 - d) lighting requirements if any
 - e) radar reflectors
 - f) visible distance
 - g) radio buoys if any (requirement for serial numbers)
 - h) satellite transceivers (requirement for serial numbers)
 - i) echo sounder
5. Applicable areas:
 - a) coordinates of mooring sites, if applicable
 - b) details of any closed areas e.g., shipping lanes, Marine Protected Areas, reserves etc.
6. Means for monitoring and reviewing implementation of the AFAD-MP.
7. AFAD logbook template (data to be collected specified in Annex IV).

ANNEX III
DATA COLLECTION FOR DFADS

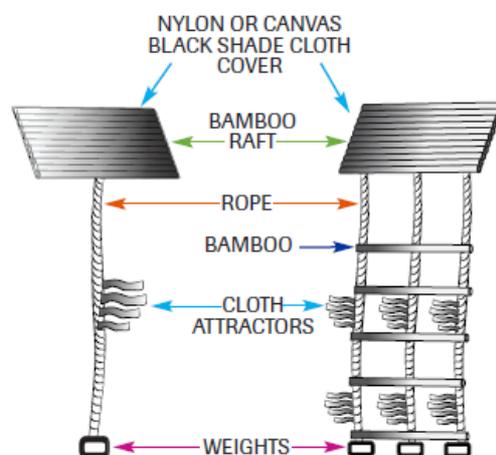
- a) For each activity on a DFAD, whether followed by a set or not, each fishing, support and supply vessel to report the following information:
- i. Vessel (name and registration number of the fishing, support or supply vessel)
 - ii. Position (as the geographic location of the event (Latitude and Longitude) in degrees and minutes)
 - iii. Date (as DD/MM/YYYY, day/month/year)
 - iv. DFAD identifier (DFAD or beacon ID)
 - v. DFAD type (drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD),
 - vi. DFAD design characteristics
 - Dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure
 - vii. Type of the activity, (visit deployment, hauling, retrieving, loss, intervention to service electronic equipment).
- b) If the visit is followed by a set, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch, whether retained or discarded dead or alive. CPCs to report this data aggregated per vessel at 1*1 degree (where applicable) and monthly to the Secretariat

ANNEX IV
DATA COLLECTION FOR AFADS

- a) Any activity around an AFAD.
- b) For each activity on an AFAD (repair, intervention consolidation, etc.), whether followed or not by a set or other fishing activities, the,
 - i. Position (as the geographic location of the event (Latitude and Longitude) in degrees and minutes)
 - ii. Date (as DD/MM/YYYY, day/month/year)
 - iii. AFAD identifier (i.e. AFAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner).
- c) If the visit is followed by a set or other fishing activities, the results of the set in terms of catch and bycatch, whether retained or discarded dead or alive.

ANNEX V
PRINCIPLES FOR DESIGN AND DEPLOYMENT OF FADS

EXAMPLE OF NON-ENTANGLING FAD



1. The surface structure of the FAD shall not be covered, or only covered with non-meshed material
2. If a sub-surface component is used, it shall not be made from netting but from non-meshed materials such as ropes or canvas sheets.

RESOLUTION 19/03
ON THE CONSERVATION OF MOBULID RAYS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH
FISHERIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Keywords: Mobula Rays, Manta Rays, Conservation

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING Resolution 12/01 On the implementation of the Precautionary Approach calls on IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties to apply the precautionary approach when managing tuna and tuna-like species in accordance with Article 5 of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement and that, for sound fisheries management, such an approach applies also within areas under national jurisdiction;

RECALLING IOTC Resolution 05/05 *concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC*;

CONSIDERING that the species of the family Mobulidae, which includes manta rays and mobula rays (hereinafter mobulid rays), are extremely vulnerable to overfishing as they are slow-growing, late sexual maturity, have long gestation periods, and often give birth to only a few pups;

RECOGNISING the ecological and cultural significance of mobulid rays in the Indian Ocean;

CONCERNED about the possible impacts on these species by the different fisheries occurring from coastal areas to the high seas;

CONSIDERING that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Sharks calls on States to cooperate through regional fisheries management organizations to ensure the sustainability of shark stocks;

CONCERNED by the lack of complete and accurate data reporting concerning fishing activities on non-targeted species;

RECOGNIZING the need to improve the collection of species-specific data on catch, catch rates, release, discards, and trade as a basis for improving the conservation and management of mobulid rays stocks;

NOTING that the mobulid rays are listed in Appendix I and Appendix II of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the range States to a migratory species shall endeavour to strictly protect them;

FURTHER NOTING that the mobulid rays are also listed in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) for which trade shall be closely controlled under specific conditions including, inter alia, that trade will not be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Scientific Committee (SC21) recently noted the declines of these species across the Indian Ocean and RECOMMEND that management actions, such as no-retention measures amongst other, are required and must be immediately adopted;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

1. This Resolution shall apply to all fishing vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (hereinafter referred to collectively as CPCs), and on the IOTC record of fishing vessels or authorized to fish for tuna and tuna like species managed by the IOTC.

2. CPCs shall prohibit all vessels from intentionally setting any gear type for targeted fishing of mobulid rays in the IOTC Area of Competence, if the animal is sighted prior to commencement of the set.
3. CPCs shall prohibit all vessels retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, any part or whole carcass of mobulid rays caught in the IOTC Area of Competence.
4. Provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 above do not apply to fishing vessels carrying out subsistence fishery¹ that, anyhow, shall not be selling or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of mobulid rays.
5. CPCs shall require all their fishing vessels, other than those carrying out subsistence fishery, to promptly release alive and unharmed, to the extent practicable, mobulid rays as soon as they are seen in the net, on the hook, or on the deck, and do it in a manner that will result in the least possible harm to the individuals captured. The handling procedures detailed in Annex I, while taking into consideration the safety of the crew shall be implemented and followed.
6. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, in the case of mobulid rays that are unintentionally caught by and frozen as part of a purse seine vessel's operation, the vessel must surrender the whole mobulid ray to the responsible governmental authorities, or other competent authority, or discard them at the point of landing. Mobulid rays surrendered in this manner may not be sold or bartered but may be donated for purposes of domestic human consumption.
7. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, in the case of mobulid rays that are unintentionally caught by artisanal fishing², the vessel should report the information on the accidental catch to the responsible governmental authorities, or other competent authority, at the point of landing. Mobulid rays unintentionally caught may only be used for purposes of local consumption. This derogation will expire in 1 January 2022.
8. CPCs shall report the information and data collected on interactions (i.e. number of discards and releases) with mobulid rays by vessels through logbooks and/or through observer programs. The data shall be provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the following year, and according to the timelines specified in Resolution 15/02 (or any subsequent revision).
9. CPCs shall ensure that fishermen are aware of and use proper mitigation, identification, handling and releasing techniques and keep on board all necessary equipment for the release of mobulid rays in accordance with the handling guidelines of Annex 1.
10. Recreational and sport fishing shall release alive all caught mobulid rays and shall not be entitled to retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling, or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of mobulid rays.
11. CPCs, unless clearly demonstrate that intentional and/or incidental catches of mobulids do not occur in their fisheries, shall develop, with the assistance from the IOTC Secretariat where required, sampling plans for the monitoring of the mobulid rays catches by the subsistence and artisanal fisheries. The sampling plans, including their scientific and operational rationale, shall be reported in the national scientific reports to the Scientific Committee, starting in 2020, which will provide its advice on their soundness by 2021 at the latest. The sampling plans, where required, will be implemented by the CPCs from 2022 onward taking into account the Scientific Committee advice.

¹ A subsistence fishery is a fishery where the fish caught are consumed directly by the families of the fishers rather than being bought by middle-(wo)men and sold at the next larger market, per the FAO Guidelines for the routine collection of capture fishery data. FAO Fisheries Technical Paper. No. 382. Rome, FAO. 1999. 113p.

² Artisanal fishing: fisheries other than longline or surface fisheries (i.e. purse seines, pole & line, gillnet fisheries, hand-line and trolling vessels), registered in the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels (DEFINITION in footnote 1 of Res. 15/02).

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12. CPCs are encouraged to investigate at-vessel and post-release mortality in mobulids including, but not exclusively, the application of satellite tagging programs that may be provisioned primarily through the national support complementing possible funds allocation from the IOTC to investigate the effectiveness of this measure.
 13. The IOTC Scientific Committee shall review the status of *Mobula spp.* in the IOTC Area of Competence and provide management advice to the Commission in 2023 also to identify possible hot-spots for conservation and management of mobulids within and beyond EEZs. Moreover, the IOTC Scientific Committee is requested to provide, whenever considered adequate on the basis of evolving knowledge and scientific advice, further improvements to the handling procedures detailed in Annex 1.
 14. Scientific observers shall be allowed to collect biological samples of mobulid rays caught in the IOTC Area of Competence that are dead at haul-back, provided that the samples are a part of a research project approved by the IOTC Scientific Committee. In order to obtain the approval, a detailed document outlining the purpose of the work, number of samples intended to be collected and the spatio-temporal distribution of the sampling effect must be included in the proposal. Annual progress of the work and a final report on completion shall be presented to the SC.

ANNEX 1
Live release handling procedures

1. Prohibit the gaffing of rays.
2. Prohibit the lifting of rays by the gill slits or spiracles.
3. Prohibit the punching of holes through the bodies of rays (e.g. to pass a cable through for lifting the ray).
4. Rays too large to be lifted safely by hand shall be, to the extent possible, brailed out of the net using best available method such as those recommended in document IOTC-2012-WPEB08-INF07.
5. Large rays that cannot be released safely before being landed on deck, shall be returned to the water as soon as possible, preferably utilizing a ramp from the deck connecting to an opening on the side of the boat, or if no such ramp is available, lowered with a sling or net.

RESOLUTION 19/04
CONCERNING THE IOTC RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO OPERATE IN
THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Keywords: Authorised vessels; active vessels; auxiliary, supply and support vessels; IMO number; IUU fishing vessels.

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECALLING that IOTC has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate the IUU fisheries conducted by large-scale tuna fishing vessels;

FURTHER RECALLING that IOTC adopted the Resolution 01/06 *Concerning the IOTC Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Programme* at its 2001 meeting;

FURTHER RECALLING that IOTC adopted the Resolution 01/02 (superseded by Resolution 13/02, then Resolution 14/04, then Resolution 15/04) *Relating to control of fishing activities* at its 2001 meeting;

NOTING that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential to operate in the IOTC area of competence without timely registration with the Commission;

NOTING that supply or support vessels can increase the fishing capacity of purse seine vessels in an uncontrolled manner by setting fish aggregating devices [in areas closed to fishing];

RECALLING that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IPOA), that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organisations should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorised and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing;

RECALLING that the IOTC Record of Active Vessels was established by the Commission on 1 July 2003, via Resolution 02/05 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence* [superseded by Resolution 05/02, then Resolution 07/02, then Resolution 13/02, then Resolution 14/04, then Resolution 15/04];

RECOGNISING the need to take further measures to effectively eliminate the IUU large scale tuna fishing vessels;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

1. The Commission shall maintain an IOTC Record of fishing vessels that are:
 - a) 24 metres in length overall or above; or
 - b) in case of vessels less than 24 meters, those operating in waters outside the Economic Exclusive Zone of the flag State; and that are authorised to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence (hereinafter referred to as ‘authorised fishing vessels’, or AFVs).
2. For the purpose of this Resolution, fishing vessels including auxiliary, supply and support vessels that are not entered in the IOTC Record are deemed not to be authorised to fish for, retain on board, tranship or land tuna and tuna-like species or supporting any fishing activity or set drifting fish aggregation devices (DFADs) in the IOTC area of competence. This provision shall not apply to vessels less than 24 m in length overall operating inside the EEZ of the flag State.

3. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (hereinafter referred to as "CPC") shall submit electronically, to the IOTC Executive Secretary for those vessels referred to 1(a) and for those vessels referred to 1(b), the list of its AFVs that are authorised to operate in the IOTC area of competence. This list shall include the following information:
- a) Name of vessel(s), and national register number(s) or EU registration (CFR) number;
 - b) IMO number (if eligible under IMO requirements);
 - c) To allow the necessary time for CPCs to obtain an IMO number for eligible vessels that do not already have one, this paragraph is effective as of 1 January 2016. For vessels of less than 100 GT that are at least 12 metres in length overall, the requirement in this paragraph is effective as of 1 January 2020, CPCs shall ensure that all their fishing vessels that are registered on the IOTC Record of fishing vessels have IMO numbers issued to them in line with IMO Assembly Resolution A.1117(30). Paragraph 3(b) on IMO number does not apply to vessels which are not eligible to receive IMO numbers.
 - d) Previous name(s) (if any) or indicate non-availability;
 - e) Previous flag(s) (if any) or indicate non-availability;
 - f) Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any) or indicate non-availability;
 - g) International radio call sign(s) (if any) or indicate non-availability;
 - h) Port of Registration;
 - i) Type of vessel(s), length overall (m) and gross tonnage (GT);
 - j) Total volume of fish hold(s) (in m³). This requirement will be effective from 1 January 2022;
 - k) Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s);
 - l) Name and address of beneficial owner(s), if known and different from vessel owner/operator or indicate non-availability;
 - m) Name and address of company operating the vessel and company registration number (if any);
 - n) Gear(s) used;
 - o) Time period(s) authorised for fishing and/or transshipping;
 - p) Colour photographs of the vessel showing:
 - i. the starboard side and portside of the vessel, each showing the whole structure;
 - ii. the bow of the vessel;
 - iii. at least one of the photographs clearly showing at least one of the external markings specified in 3(a).
4. For vessels not authorized to operate outside the EEZ of the flag CPC, requirement 3(p) will be effective after 1 January 2022.
5. If any of the information in paragraph 3 is not submitted, the vessel shall not be included in the IOTC Record. The Commission shall take into account exceptional circumstances in which a vessel owner is not able to obtain an IMO number despite following the appropriate procedures. Flag CPCs shall report any such exceptional situations to the IOTC Secretariat.
6. All CPCs which issue authorisations to fish to their flag vessels to fish for species managed by the IOTC shall submit to the IOTC Executive Secretary, an updated template of the official authorisation to fish outside National jurisdictions, and update this information whenever this information changes. This information includes:

- a) name of the Competent Authority;
 - b) name and contact of personnel of the Competent Authority;
 - c) signature of the personnel of the Competent Authority;
 - d) official stamp of the Competent Authority.
7. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall publish the above information in a secure part on the IOTC website for MCS purpose.
 8. The template in paragraph 6 shall be used exclusively for monitoring, control and surveillance purposes and a difference between the template and the authorisation carried onboard the vessel does not constitute an infraction, but will prompt the controlling State to clarify the issue with the identified Competent Authority of the flag State of the vessel in question.
 9. Each CPC shall promptly notify, after the establishment of their initial IOTC Record, the IOTC Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record at any time such changes occur.
 10. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall maintain the IOTC Record, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the Record through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.
 11. The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:
 - a) authorise their vessels to operate in the IOTC area of competence only if they are able to fulfil in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the IOTC Agreement and its Conservation and Management Measures;
 - b) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;
 - c) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or tranship;
 - d) ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such a history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels; the parties of the IUU incident have officially resolved the matter and sanctions have been completed; or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their AFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
 - e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their AFVs on the IOTC Record are not engaged in or associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the IOTC Record in the IOTC area of competence;
 - f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the AFVs on the IOTC Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.
 12. CPCs shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 11, including punitive actions and sanctions and, in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report the results of the review to the Commission annually. In consideration of the results of such review, the Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag CPCs of AFVs on the IOTC Record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
 13. a) CPCs shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on

board, the transshipment and landing of tuna and tuna-like species by the vessels which are not entered into the IOTC Record.

- b) To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
- (i) Flag CPCs shall validate statistical documents only for the vessels on the IOTC Record;
 - (ii) CPCs shall require that the species covered by Statistical Document Programs caught by AFVs in the IOTC area of competence, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the IOTC Record; and
 - (iii) CPCs importing species covered by Statistical Document Programs and the flag States of vessels shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.
14. Each CPC shall notify the IOTC Executive Secretary of any factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not on the IOTC Record to be engaged in fishing for and/or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence.
15. a) If a vessel mentioned in paragraph 14 is flying the flag of a CPC, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall request that Party to take measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing for tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence;
- I.b) If the flag of a vessel mentioned in paragraph 14 cannot be determined or is of a non-Contracting Party without cooperating status, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall compile and circulate such information to all CPCs, without delay.
16. The Commission and the CPCs concerned shall communicate with each other, and make the best effort with FAO and other relevant regional fishery management bodies to develop and implement appropriate measures, where feasible, including the establishment of records of a similar nature in a timely manner so as to avoid adverse effects upon tuna resources in other oceans. Such adverse effects might consist of excessive fishing pressure resulting from a shift of the IUU fishing vessels from the Indian Ocean to other oceans.
17. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall:
- a) Ensure that each of its fishing vessels carry on board documents issued and certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with IOTC, including, at a minimum, the following:
 - (i) License, permit or authorisation to fish and terms and conditions attached to the licence, permit of authorisation;
 - (ii) Vessel name;
 - (iii) Port in which registered and the number(s) under which registered;
 - (iv) International call sign;
 - (v) Names and addresses of owner(s) and where relevant, the charterer;
 - (vi) Overall length;
 - (vii) Engine power, in KW/horsepower, where appropriate.

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- b) Verify above documents on a regular basis and at least every year;
 - c) Ensure that any modification to the documents and to the information referred to in 17.a) is certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC.
18. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence are marked in such a way that they can be readily identified with generally accepted standards such as the FAO Standard Specification for the Marking and Identification of Fishing vessels.
19. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that:
- a) Each gear used by its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence is marked appropriately, e.g., the ends of nets, lines and gear in the sea, shall be fitted with flag or radar reflector buoys by day and light buoys by night sufficient to indicate their position and extent;
 - b) Marker buoys and similar objects floating and on the surface, and intended to indicate the location of fixed fishing gear, shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and/or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong;
 - c) Fish aggregating devices shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and / or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong.
20. Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC shall ensure that all their respective fishing vessels of 24 meters or above and vessels less than 24 meters if fishing outside their EEZ, and are registered on the IOTC Record of fishing vessels and authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence, keep a bound fishing national logbook with consecutively numbered pages. The original recordings contained in the fishing logbooks shall be kept on board the fishing vessel for a period of at least 12 months.
21. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 15/04 *Concerning the establishment of an IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC area.*

RESOLUTION 19/05
ON A BAN ON DISCARDS OF BIGEYE TUNA, SKIPJACK TUNA, YELLOWFIN TUNA, AND NON-TARGETED SPECIES CAUGHT BY PURSE SEINE VESSELS IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Keywords: Bigeye, yellowfin, skipjack, discards, purse seine

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNISING the need for action to ensure the achievement of IOTC objectives to conserve and manage bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna in the IOTC area of competence;

RECOGNISING that the international community has recognised both ethical concerns and policy regarding discards of species in several international instruments and statements, including United Nations General Assembly resolutions (A/RES/49/118 (1994); A/RES/50/25 (1996); A/RES/51/36 (1996); A/RES/52/29 (1997); A/RES/53/33 (1998); A/RES/55/8 (2000); and A/RES/57/142 (2002)), United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement); The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995; the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the FAO International Plan of Action (IPOA) on sharks; the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECALLING that the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement has underlined the importance of ensuring the conservation and optimum utilisation of highly migratory species through the action of regional fishery bodies such as the IOTC, and provides that “*States should minimize ... discards, ..., catch of non target species, both fish and non-fish species, and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species...*”;

RECALLING that The Rome Consensus on World Fisheries adopted by the FAO Ministerial Conference on Fisheries, Rome, 14–15 March 1995, provides that “*States should...reduce bycatches, fish discards...*”;

RECALLING that the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries provides that “*States should take appropriate measures to minimize waste, discards...collect information on discards ...; ... take account of discards (in the precautionary approach) ...; develop technologies that minimize discards ...; use of selective gear to minimize discards*”;

RECALLING that the Commission adopted Resolution 12/01 *On the implementation of the precautionary approach*;

CONCERNED about the morally unacceptable waste and the impact of unsustainable fishing practices upon the oceanic environment, represented by the discarding of tunas and non-target species in the purse seine fishery for tunas in the Indian Ocean;

CONSIDERING the important volume of tuna and non-targeted species discarded in the purse seine fishery for tunas in the Indian Ocean;

CONSIDERING the Millennium Development Goals, particularly Goal Number 2 aims to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”.

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

RETENTION OF TARGETED TUNA SPECIES

1. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties shall require all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land all bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and yellowfin tuna caught, except fish considered unfit for human consumption as defined in paragraph 4b (i).

RETENTION OF NON-TARGETED SPECIES

2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties shall require all purse seine vessels to retain on board and then land, to the extent practicable, the following non-targeted species or species group; other tunas, rainbow runner, dolphinfish, triggerfish, billfish, wahoo, and barracuda, except fish considered unfit for human consumption as defined in paragraph 4b (i), and/or species which are prohibited from retention, consumption, or trade through domestic legislations and international obligations.
3. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties using other gear types not provided for in paragraph 1 and 2 of this resolution, which are targeting tuna and tuna like species in the IOTC area of competence should encourage their vessel to:
 - a) take all reasonable steps to ensure the safe release of non-targeted species taken alive, to the extent possible, while taking into consideration the safety of the crew;
 - b) retain on board and then land all dead non-targeted species except those considered unfit for human consumption as defined in paragraph 4b(i) and/or are prohibited from retention through domestic legislations and international obligations.
4. Procedures for the implementation of full retention requirements include:
 - a) No bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and non-targeted species referred to in paragraph 2 caught by purse seine vessels may be discarded after the point in the set when the net is fully pursed and more than one half of the net has been retrieved. If equipment malfunctions affect the process of pursing and retrieving the net in such a way that this rule cannot be complied with, the crew must make efforts to release the tunas and the non-targeted species as soon as possible.
 - b) The following two exceptions to the above rule shall apply:
 - (i) Where it is determined by the captain of the vessel that tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) and the non-targeted species as listed in Para 2 caught are unfit for human consumption, the following definitions shall be applied:
 - "unfit for human consumption" are fish that:
 - is meshed or crushed in the purse seine; or
 - is damaged due to depredation; or
 - has died and spoiled in the net where a gear failure has prevented both the normal retrieval of the net and catch, and efforts to release the fish alive;
 - "unfit for human consumption" does not include fish that:
 - is considered undesirable in terms of size, marketability, or species composition; or
 - is spoiled or contaminated as the result of an act or omission of the crew of the fishing vessel.
 - (ii) Where the captain of a vessel determines that tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) and the non-targeted species as listed in Para 2 were caught during the final set of a trip and there is insufficient storage capacity to accommodate all tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) and the non-targeted species caught in that set. This fish may only be discarded if:
 - the captain and crew attempt to release the tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna or yellowfin tuna) and the non-targeted species alive as soon as possible; and
 - no further fishing is undertaken after the discard until the tuna (bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, and/or yellowfin tuna) and the non-targeted species on board the vessel has been landed or transhipped.

NON-RETENTION

5. Where the captain of the vessel determines that fish should not be retained on board in accordance with Clause 4.b (i) and (ii), the captain shall record the event in the relevant logbook including estimated tonnage

and species composition of discarded fish; and estimated tonnage and species composition of retained fish from that set.

REVIEW

6. The IOTC Scientific Committee, the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas, and the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch shall as a matter of priority:
 - a) act on its recommendation in the Report of the 18th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee and undertake work to examine the benefits of retaining non-targeted species catches, other than those prohibited via IOTC Resolution, and present its recommendations to the 22nd Annual Session of the Commission. The work should take into account all species that are usually discarded on all major gears (i.e., purse-seines, longlines and gillnets), and should look at fisheries that take place both on the high seas and in coastal countries and the feasibility of both retraining on-board and processing of the associated landings.

IMPLEMENTATION

7. This Resolution will be revised, according to the advice of the IOTC Scientific Committee resulting from the review of the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas (for bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna) and of the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (for non-target species).
8. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 17/04 *On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence.*

RESOLUTION 19/06 ON ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR TRANSHIPMENT BY LARGE-SCALE FISHING VESSELS

Keywords: transshipment

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

TAKING ACCOUNT of the need to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities because they undermine the effectiveness of the Conservation and Management Measures already adopted by the IOTC;

EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN that organized tuna laundering operations have been conducted and a significant amount of catches by IUU fishing vessels have been transhipped under the names of duly licensed fishing vessels;

IN VIEW THEREFORE OF THE NEED to ensure the monitoring of the transshipment activities by large-scale longline vessels in the IOTC area of competence, including the control of their landings;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the need to collect catch data of such large scale long-line tuna to improve the scientific assessments of those stocks;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article IX of the IOTC Agreement, that:

SECTION 1. GENERAL RULE

1. Except under the programme to monitor transshipments at sea outlined below in Section 2, all transshipment operations of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks caught in association with tuna and tuna-like fisheries in the IOTC area of competence (hereinafter referred to as “tuna and tuna like species and sharks”) must take place in port¹
2. The flag Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (collectively termed CPCs) shall take the necessary measures to ensure that large scale tuna vessels² (hereafter referred as the “LSTVs”) flying their flag comply with the obligations set out in Annex I when transshipping in port.
3. Transshipment operations within the Maldives between pole and line fishing vessels, and collector vessels flagged in the Maldives and registered on the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels shall be exempted from the data reporting requirements specified in Annex I and Annex III. Such transshipment operations shall conform to the criteria set forth in Annex II of this resolution.

SECTION 2. PROGRAMME TO MONITOR TRANSHIPMENTS AT SEA

4. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transshipment at sea which applies only to largescale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the “LSTLVs”) and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transshipments from these vessels at sea. No at-sea transshipment of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks by fishing vessels other than LSTLVs shall be allowed. The Commission shall review and, as appropriate, revise this Resolution.
5. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorise their LSTLVs to tranship at sea. However, if the flag CPC authorises the at-sea transshipment by its flag LSTLVs, such transshipment shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in Sections 3, 4 and 5, and Annexes III and IV below.

¹ Port includes offshore terminals and other installations for landing, transshipping, packaging, processing, refuelling or resupplying (as defined by FAO Port State Measures Agreement)

² Large Scale Tuna Vessel (LSTV) – fishing vessels targeting tuna and tuna like species that are over 24m LoA and are on the IOTC Record of Authorized Vessels

SECTION 3. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO RECEIVE TRANSHIPMENTS-AT-SEA IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

6. The Commission shall establish and maintain an IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive tuna and tuna-like species and sharks at sea in the IOTC area of competence from LSTLVs. For the purposes of this Resolution, carrier vessels not entered on the record are deemed not to be authorised to receive tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in at-sea transshipment operations.
7. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Executive Secretary the list of the carrier vessels that are authorised to receive at-sea transshipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC area of competence. This list shall include the following information:
 - a. The flag of the vessel;
 - b. Name of vessel, register number;
 - c. Previous name (if any);
 - d. Previous flag (if any);
 - e. Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any);
 - f. International radio call sign;
 - g. Type of vessels, length, gross tonnage (GT) and carrying capacity;
 - h. Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s);
 - i. Time period authorised for transshipping.
8. Each CPC shall promptly notify the IOTC Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the initial IOTC Record, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record, at any time such changes occur.
9. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall maintain the IOTC Record and take measures to ensure publicity of the record through electronic means, including placing it on the IOTC website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
10. Carrier vessels authorised for at-sea transshipment shall be required to install and operate a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

SECTION 4. AT-SEA TRANSHIPMENT

11. Transshipments by LSTLVs in waters under the jurisdiction of the CPCs are subject to prior authorisation from the Coastal State concerned. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the following conditions:

Flag State Authorization

12. LSTLVs are not authorised to tranship at sea, unless they have obtained prior authorisation from their flag State.

Notification obligations

Fishing vessel:

13. To receive the prior authorisation mentioned in paragraph 12 above, the master and/or owner of the LSTLV must notify the following information to its flag State authorities at least 24 hours in advance of an intended transshipment:
 - a. The name of the LSTLV, its number in the IOTC Record of Vessels, and its IMO number, if issued;
 - b. The name of the carrier vessel, its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transshipments in the IOTC area of competence, and its IMO number, and the product to be transhipped;

- c. The tonnage by product to be transhipped;
 - d. The date and location of transhipment;
 - e. The geographic location of the catches.
14. The LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State, not later than 15 days after the transhipment, the IOTC transhipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, in accordance with the format set out in Annex III.

Receiving carrier vessel:

15. Before starting transhipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall confirm that the LSTLV concerned is participating in the IOTC programme to monitor transhipment at sea (which includes payment of the fee in paragraph 13 of Annex IV) and has obtained the prior authorisation from their flag State referred to in paragraph 12. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall not start such transhipment without such confirmation.
16. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit the IOTC transhipment declaration to the IOTC Secretariat and the flag CPC of the LSTLV, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transhipment in the IOTC area of competence, within 24 hours of the completion of the transhipment.
17. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an IOTC transhipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transhipment in the IOTC area of competence, to the competent authorities of the State where the landing takes place.

Regional Observer Programme:

18. Each CPC shall ensure that all carrier vessels transhipping at sea have on board an IOTC observer, in accordance with the IOTC Regional Observer Programme in Annex IV. The IOTC observer shall observe the compliance with this Resolution, and notably that the transhipped quantities are consistent with the reported catch in the IOTC transhipment declaration.
19. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing at-sea transhipping in the IOTC area of competence without an IOTC regional observer on board, except in cases of “force majeure” duly notified to the IOTC Secretariat.
20. In the case of the eight Indonesian wooden carrier vessels listed on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessel prior to 2015 and listed in Annex V, a national observer programme may be used in place of an observer from the regional observer programme. National observers shall be trained to at least one of tuna-RFMO regional observer programme standards and will carry out all of the functions of the regional observer, including provision of all data as required by the IOTC regional observer programme and the reports equivalent to those prepared by the ROP Contractor. This provision shall only apply to the eight specific wooden carrier vessels referenced in this paragraph as indicated in Annex V. Replacement of those wooden carrier vessels are only permitted if the material of substitute vessel shall remain wooden and the carrying capacity or fish hold volume not larger than the vessel (s) being replaced. In such case, the authorisation of the replaced wooden vessel shall be immediately revoked.
21. The provision of Paragraph 20 will be rescheduled in consultation with the IOTC Secretariat as a two-year pilot project to be started in 2019. The results of the project, including data collection, reports and the effectiveness of the project shall be examined in 2021 by the IOTC Compliance Committee on the basis of a report prepared by Indonesia and analysis by the IOTC Secretariat. This review shall include whether the programme offers the same level of assurances as those provided by ROP. It shall also explore the feasibility of obtaining an IMO number for the vessels concerned. The extension of the project or the integration of the project into ROP programme shall be subject to a new decision of the Commission.

SECTION 5. GENERAL PROVISIONS

22. To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:

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- a. In validating the Statistical Document, flag CPCs of LSTLVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLV
 - b. The flag CPC of LSTLVs shall validate the Statistical Documents for the transhipped fish, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Resolution. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the IOTC Observer Programme;
 - c. CPCs shall require that the species covered by the Statistical Document Programs caught by LSTLVs in the IOTC area of competence, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the IOTC record and a copy of the IOTC transshipment declaration.
23. The CPCs shall report annually before 15 September to the IOTC Executive Secretary:
- a. The quantities by species transhipped during the previous year;
 - b. The list of the LSTLVs registered in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels which have transhipped during the previous year;
 - c. A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transshipment from their LSTLVs.
24. All tuna and tuna-like species and sharks landed or imported into the CPCs either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transhipped, shall be accompanied by the IOTC transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.
25. Each year, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall present a report on the implementation of this Resolution to the annual meeting of the Commission which shall review compliance with this Resolution.
26. The IOTC Secretariat shall, when providing CPCs with copies of all raw data, summaries and reports in accordance with paragraph 10 of Annex IV to this Resolution, also indicate evidence indicating possible infraction of IOTC regulations by LSTLVs/carrier vessels flagged to that CPC. Upon receiving such evidence, each CPC shall investigate the cases and report the results of the investigation back to the IOTC Secretariat three months prior to the IOTC Compliance Committee meeting. The IOTC Secretariat shall circulate among CPCs the list of names and flags of the LSTLVs/Carrier vessels that were involved in such possible infractions as well as the response of the flag CPCs 80 days prior to the IOTC Compliance Committee meeting.
27. Resolution 18/06 *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* is superseded by this Resolution.

ANNEX I
CONDITIONS RELATING TO IN PORT TRANSHIPMENT

General

1. Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed below:

Notification obligations

2. Fishing vessel:
 - 2.1. Prior to transshipping, the Captain of the LSTV must notify the following information to the port State authorities, at least 48 hours in advance:
 - a) the name of the LSTV and its number in the IOTC record of fishing vessels;
 - b) the name of the carrier vessel, and the product to be transhipped;
 - c) The tonnage by product to be transhipped;
 - d) the date and location of transshipment;
 - e) the major fishing grounds of the tuna and tuna-like species and sharks catches.
 - 2.2. The Captain of a LSTV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform its flag State of the following:
 - a) the products and quantities involved;
 - b) the date and place of the transshipment;
 - c) the name, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel;
 - d) the geographic location of the tuna and tuna-like species and sharks catches.
 - 2.3. The captain of the LSTV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State the IOTC transshipment declaration, along with its number in the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, in accordance with the format set out in Annex II not later than 15 days after the transshipment.
3. Receiving vessel:

Not later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the port State authorities of the quantities of tuna and tuna-like species and sharks transhipped to his vessel, and complete and transmit the IOTC transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities within 24 hours.

Landing State:

4. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete and transmit an IOTC transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities of the landing State where the landing takes place.
5. The port State and the landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTV to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
6. Each flag CPC of the LSTVs shall include in its annual report each year to IOTC the details on the transshipments by its vessels.

ANNEX II**CONDITIONS RELATING TO TRANSHIPMENTS BETWEEN MALDIVIAN COLLECTOR VESSELS AND POLE AND LINE FISHING VESSELS****General requirements**

1. The pole and line fishing vessel(s) involved shall be flagged in the Maldives and shall have a valid license to fish issued by the competent authorities of the Maldives.
2. The collector vessel(s) involved shall be flagged in the Maldives and shall have a valid license to operate issued by the competent authorities of the Maldives.
3. The vessel(s) involved shall not be authorized to fish or engage in fisheries related activities outside the area of national jurisdiction of the Maldives.
4. Transshipment operation shall only take place inside the atolls within the area of national jurisdiction of the Maldives.
5. The Collector Vessel(s) involved must be equipped and tracked by the competent authorities of the Maldives via a functional vessel monitoring system and shall also be equipped with an electronic observer system suitable for monitoring the transshipment activity. The requirement for monitoring through electronic observer system shall be achieved by 31 December 2019.
6. The fishing vessel(s) involved in the transshipment operation should be tracked by the competent authorities of the Maldives via a functional vessel monitoring system as required by the Resolution 15/03 *On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) programme*.

Reporting requirements

7. The flag State should report to the IOTC in its annual report each year the details on such transshipments by its vessels.
8. The data recording and reporting requirements set forth by the competent authorities of the Maldives for shore-based reporting or recording requirements shall also be applicable to transshipment operations between Maldivian collector vessels and pole and line fishing vessels.

**ANNEX III
IOTC TRANSHIPMENT
DECLARATION**

Carrier Vessel	Fishing Vessel
Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign: Flag: Flag State license number: National Register Number, if available: IOTC Register Number, if available:	Name of the Vessel and Radio Call Sign: Flag: Flag State license number: National Register Number, if available: IOTC Register Number, if available:

	Day	Month	Hour	Year				
Departure					from			
Return					to			
Transshipment								

Agent's name:

Signature:

Master's name of LSTV:

Signature:

Master's name of Carrier:

Signature:

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: _____ kilograms

LOCATION OF TRANSHIPMENT

Species	Port	Sea	Type of product							
			Whole	Gutted	Headed	Filletted				

If transshipment effected at sea, IOTC Observer Name and Signature:

ANNEX IV
IOTC REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME

1. Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the IOTC Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transhipments in the IOTC area of competence and which tranship at sea, to carry an IOTC observer during each transhipment operation in the IOTC area of competence.
2. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall appoint the observers and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments in the IOTC area of competence from LSTLVs flying the flag of Contracting Parties and of Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties that implement the IOTC observer program.

Designation of the observers

3. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
 - a) sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
 - b) satisfactory knowledge of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;
 - c) the ability to observe and record information accurately;
 - d) a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

Obligations of the observer

4. Observers shall:
 - a) have completed the technical training required by the guidelines established by IOTC;
 - b) not be, to the extent possible, nationals of the flag State of the receiving carrier vessel;
 - c) be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below;
 - d) be included in the list of observers maintained by the IOTC Secretariat;
 - e) not be a crew member of an LSTLV or an employee of an LSTLV company.
5. The observer tasks shall be in particular to:
 - a) On the Fishing Vessel intending to tranship to the carrier vessel and before the transhipment takes place, the observer shall:
 - i. check the validity of the fishing vessel's authorisation or licence to fish tuna and tuna-like species and sharks in the IOTC area of competence;
 - ii. check and note the total quantity of catch on board, and the quantity to be transferred to the carrier vessel;
 - iii. check that the VMS is functioning and examine the logbook;
 - iv. verify whether any of the catch on board resulted from transfers from other vessels, and check documentation on such transfers;
 - v. in the case of an indication that there are any violations involving the fishing vessel, immediately report the violations to the carrier vessel's master,
 - vi. report the results of these duties on the fishing vessel in the observers report.
 - b) On the Carrier Vessel
 Monitor the carrier vessel's compliance with the relevant Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the Commission. In particular the observers shall:
 - i. record and report upon the transhipment activities carried out;
 - ii. verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transhipping;

- iii. observe and estimate products transhipped;
 - iv. verify and record the name of the LSTLV concerned and its IOTC number;
 - v. verify the data contained in the transhipment declaration;
 - vi. certify the data contained in the transhipment declaration;
 - vii. countersign the transhipment declaration;
 - viii. issue a daily report of the carrier vessels transhipping activities;
 - ix. establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information;
 - x. submit to the IOTC Secretariat the aforementioned general report within 20 days from the end of the period of observation;
 - xi. exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.
6. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLVs and of the LSTLVs owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer.
 7. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
 8. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behaviour which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

Obligations of the flag States of carrier vessels

9. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
 - a) Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
 - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
 - i. Satellite navigation equipment;
 - ii. Radar display viewing screens when in use;
 - iii. Electronic means of communication.
 - c) Observers shall be provided accommodation, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
 - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
 - e) The flag States shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.
10. The IOTC Executive Secretary, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, shall provide to the flag State of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transhipped and to the flag CPC of the LSTLV, copies of all available raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip four months prior to the IOTC Compliance Committee meeting.

Obligations of LSTLV during transhipment

11. Observers shall be allowed to visit the fishing vessel, if weather conditions permit it, and access shall be granted to personnel and areas of the vessel necessary to carry out their duties set forth in paragraph 5.
12. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall submit the observer reports to the IOTC Compliance Committee and to the IOTC Scientific Committee.

Observer fees

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13. The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the IOTC Secretariat and the IOTC Executive Secretary shall manage the account for implementing the program.
 14. No LSTLV may participate in the at-sea transshipment program unless the fees, as required under paragraph 13, have been paid.

ANNEX V**INDONESIAN CARRIER VESSELS AUTHORISED TO TRANSHIP AT SEA**

No	Name of Wooden Carrier	Vessel Gross Tonnage
1	Mutiara 39	197
2	Hiroyoshi 17	171
3	Mutiara 36	294
4	Abadi jaya 101	387
5	Perintis Jaya 89	141
6	Bandar Nelayan 271	242
7	Bandar Nelayan 2017	300
8	Bandar Nelayan 2018	290

RESOLUTION 19/07
ON VESSEL CHARTERING IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Keywords: Charter, conservation, data.

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),

RECOGNIZING that, under the IOTC Agreement, Contracting Parties shall desire to cooperate with a view to ensuring the conservation of tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean and promoting their optimum utilization;

RECALLING that, according to Article 92 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, of 10 December 1982, ships shall sail under the flag of one State only and shall be subject to its exclusive jurisdiction on the high seas except as otherwise provided in relevant international instruments;

ACKNOWLEDGING the needs and interests of all States to develop their fishing fleets to enable them to fully utilize the fishing opportunities available to them under relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

ACKNOWLEDGING the important contribution of chartered vessels to sustainable fisheries development in the Indian Ocean;

MINDFUL that the practice of charter agreements, whereby fishing vessels do not change their flag, might seriously undermine the effectiveness of Conservation and Management Measures established by the IOTC unless properly regulated;

CONCERNED with ensuring that charter agreements do not promote IUU fishing activities or undermine IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;

REALIZING that there is a need for IOTC to regulate charter agreements with due regard to all relevant factors;

REALIZING that there is a need for the IOTC to establish procedures for charter agreements;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, paragraph 1 of the IOTC Agreement, the following:

Part I: Definitions

1. **Chartering of vessels:** means an agreement or an arrangement by which a fishing vessel flying the flag of Contracting Party is contracted for a defined period of time by an operator in another Contracting Party without the change of flag. For the purpose of this Resolution, the “chartering CP” refers to the CP that holds the quota allocation or fishing possibilities and the “flag CP” refers to the CP in which the chartered vessel is registered.

Part II: Objective

2. Charter agreements may be allowed, predominantly as an initial step in the fishery development of the chartering nation. The period of the chartering arrangement shall be consistent with the development schedule of the chartering nation. The chartering agreement shall not undermine IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.

Part III: General provisions

3. The chartering agreement shall contain the following conditions:
 - 3.1 The flag CP has consented in writing to the chartering agreement;
 - 3.2 The duration of the fishing operations under the chartering agreement does not exceed 12 months cumulatively in any calendar year;
 - 3.3 Fishing vessels to be chartered shall be registered to responsible Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, which explicitly agree to apply IOTC Conservation and Management Measures and enforce them on their vessels. All flag Contracting Parties or Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties,

concerned shall effectively exercise their duty to control their fishing vessels to ensure compliance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.

- 3.4 Fishing vessels to be chartered shall be on the IOTC record of vessels authorized to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence, in accordance with IOTC [Resolution 15/04](#) *Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence* (or any subsequent superseding revision).
- 3.5 Without prejudice to the duties of the chartering CP, the flag CP shall ensure that the chartered vessel complies with both the chartering Contracting Party and the flag Contracting Party or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party shall ensure compliance by chartered vessels with relevant Conservation and Management Measures established by IOTC, in accordance with their rights, obligations and jurisdiction under international law. If the chartered vessel is allowed by the chartering CP to go and fish in the high seas, the flag CP is then responsible for controlling the high seas fishing conducted pursuant to the charter arrangement. The chartered vessel shall report VMS and catch data to both the CPs (chartering and flag) and to the IOTC Secretariat.
- 3.6 All catches (historical and current/future), including bycatch and discards, taken pursuant to the chartering agreement (including pursuant to a chartering agreement that existed prior to the IOTC Resolution 18/10), shall be counted against the quota or fishing possibilities of the chartering CP. The observer coverage (historical, current/future) on board such vessels shall also be counted against the coverage rate of the chartering CP for the duration that the vessel fishes under the Charter Agreement.
- 3.7 The chartering CP shall report to the IOTC all catches, including bycatch and discards, and other information required by the IOTC, and as per the Charter Notification Scheme detailed in Part III of this Resolution.
- 3.8 Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and, as appropriate, tools for differentiation of fishing areas, such as fish tags or marks, shall be used, according to the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures, for effective fishery management.
- 3.9 There shall be observer coverage of at least 5% of fishing effort, as measured in the manner specified in paragraph 2 of [Resolution 11/04](#) (or any subsequent superseding resolution), for chartered vessels. All other provisions of [Resolution 11/04](#) apply *mutatis mutandis* in the case of chartered vessels.
- 3.10 The chartered vessels shall have a fishing license issued by the chartering CP, and shall not be on the IOTC IUU list as established by IOTC Resolution 17/03 [~~superseded by~~ [Resolution 18/03](#)] *On Establishing a List of Vessels Presumed to Have Carried out Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Activities in the IOTC Area of Competence* (or any subsequent superseding resolution), and/or IUU list of other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations.
- 3.11. When operating under charter agreements, the chartered vessels shall not, to the extent possible, be authorized to use the quota (if any) or entitlement of the flag Contracting Parties or Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties. In no case, shall the vessel be authorized to fish under more than one chartering agreement at the same time.
- 3.12. Unless specifically provided in the chartering agreement, and consistent with relevant domestic law and regulation, the catches of the chartered vessels shall be unloaded exclusively in the Ports of the chartering Contracting Party or under its direct supervision in order to assure that the activities of the chartered vessels do not undermine IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.
- 3.13 The chartered vessel shall at all times carry a copy of the documentation referred to in paragraph 4.1.

Part IV: Charter notification scheme

4. Within 15 days, or, in any case, prior to 72 hours before commencement of fishing activities under a Charter agreement:
 - 4.1 The chartering CP shall notify the IOTC Executive Secretary and copy the flag CP of any vessel to be identified as chartered in accordance with this Resolution by submitting electronically where possible the following information with respect to each chartered vessel:
 - a) the name (in both native and Latin alphabets) and registration of the chartered vessel, and International Maritime Organization (IMO) ship identification number (if eligible);
 - b) the name and contact address of the beneficial owner(s) of the vessel;
 - c) the description of the vessel, including the length overall, type of vessel and the type of fishing

method(s) to be used under the charter;

- d) a copy of the chartering agreement and any fishing authorization or license it has issued to the vessel, including in particular, the quota allocation(s) or fishing possibility assigned to the vessel; and the duration of the chartering arrangement;
- e) its consent to the chartering agreement; and
- f) the measures adopted to implement these provisions.

4.2 The flag CP or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, shall provide the following information to the IOTC Executive Secretary and copy the chartering CP:

- a) its consent to the chartering agreement;
- b) the measures adopted to implement these provisions; and
- c) its agreement to comply with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.

- 5. Upon receipt of the information required in paragraph 4, the IOTC Executive Secretary shall circulate all the information within 5 business days to all Contracting Parties or Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, via an IOTC Circular.
- 6. Both the chartering CP and the flag CP or Cooperating Non-Contracting Party shall immediately inform the IOTC Executive Secretary of the start, suspension, resumption and termination of the fishing operations under the chartering agreement.
- 7. The IOTC Executive Secretary shall circulate all the information pertaining to termination of a chartering agreement within 5 business days to all Contracting Parties or Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, via an IOTC Circular.
- 8. The chartering CP shall report to the IOTC Executive Secretary by 28 February each year, and for the previous calendar year, the particulars of charter agreements made and carried out under this Resolution, including information of catches taken and fishing effort deployed by the chartered vessels as well as the level of observer coverage achieved on the chartered vessels, in a manner consistent with IOTC data confidentiality requirements.
- 9. Each year the IOTC Executive Secretary shall present a summary of all the chartering agreements undertaken in the previous year, to the Commission which, at its annual meeting, shall review compliance with this Resolution under advice of the IOTC Compliance Committee.
- 10. This Resolution supersedes IOTC Resolution 18/10 *On Vessel Chartering in the IOTC Area of Competence*.

APPENDIX 8.
STATEMENTS MADE BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND MALDIVES

(a) Korea

Korea appreciates all CPCs for your close cooperation leading up to the adoption on this new yellowfin measure. Korea also thank CPCs for your kind acknowledgement for Korea's full compliance with the yellowfin measure in 2017 and 2018 and its additional voluntary efforts that include further 28% and 38% reductions in 2017 and 2018, respectively and the scrapping of a vessel. The new measure would allow for Korea to have some leeway in 2019, providing an incentive to our industry for their good compliance and sacrifice that was made to fully comply with the government's instructions. Korea will remain fully compliant with all measures of the IOTC and committed to contributing to the work of the IOTC.

(b) Maldives

Chair no doubt we all have had to make difficult compromises in our 3 day negotiations.

As a large ocean state we are heavily dependent on the marine resources for our economic growth, food security, employment etc. Without yellowfin and skipjack tuna stocks in a healthy state, Maldives is probably is the nation that would suffer the most.

For us tuna fishing is not only a commercial activity, but it is also our livelihood, employing about 20-25% of in the harvesting sector alone.

We consume more than 180kg of fish per year and to say the least our lives would be affected by more than many ways should these stocks go extinct.

To this effect and to contribute rebuilding of IO YFT stocks government has now made a decision to decommission the longline yellowfin tuna fleet of the Maldives that is contributing about 3,000 tons of yellowfin tuna to our nominal catch.

Chair, it is in our best interest to save the yellowfin and other tuna stocks and I hope other member states would also contribute voluntary cuts to ensure yellowfin tuna stocks recover

We would like to have this statement reflected in the report - Many thanks

APPENDIX 9.**PROCESS FOR SELECTING AN INDEPENDENT CHAIR FOR THE TCAC**

1. The secretariat will draft terms of reference and distribute these to all members for comment and approval by the 15 of July 2019. At the same time members will be invited to nominate suitable candidates for the role of independent TCAC Chair.
2. Comments on the TOR and receiving nominations will close 15 August 2019 and the Secretariat will contact the nominees to confirm their availability and willingness to take on the role of chair of the TCAC
3. A final list of nominees will be circulated to members by the 31 August 2019 along with their Resumes; and members will be asked to rank the candidates, with 1 being the most preferred candidate. The deadline for voting will be the 15 September 2019. The votes will be counted by the Executive Secretary and the Chair of the Commission, and the successful candidate will be the candidate with the lowest aggregate score, irrespective of how many votes were received.
4. Eligibility for voting will be in accordance with Art. XIII.8 of the IOTC Agreement. The Secretariat will inform all members of the successful candidate by the end of 30 September 2019.

APPENDIX 10.
IOTC IUU VESSELS LIST (JUNE 2019)

No.	Current name of vessel (previous names) Nom actuel du navire (noms précédents)	Current flag (previous flags)/ Pavillon actuel (pavillons précédents)	Lloyds-IMO number/ Numéro Lloyds-IMO	Photo	Call sign (previous call signs) Indicatif d'appel (précédents)	Owner / beneficial owners (previous owners) Propriétaire / en équité (précédents)	Operator (previous operators)/ Armateur (précédents)	Summary of IUU activities/ Résumé des activités INN	Date included on IOTC IUU Vessels List/ Date d'inscription sur la Liste des navires INN de la CTOI
1	KIM SENG DENG 3	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
2	ASIAN WARRIOR (DORITA)	EQUATORIAL GUINEA/ GUINÉE EQUATORIALE	7322897	Yes. Refer to report IOTC CIRCULAR 2015-004/ IOTC-2015-CoC12-07 CIRCULAIRE CTOI 2015-004	3CAG	Stanley Management Inc	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
3	ATLANTIC WIND (CARRAN)	UNK (EQUATORIAL GUINEA)/INC (GUINÉE EQUATORIALE)	9042001	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2015-004/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2015-004	3CAE	High Mountain Overseas S.A.	High Mountain Overseas S.A.	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
4	WISDOM SEA REEFER	HONDURAS	7637527	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2018-015/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2018-015	HQXQ4	WISDOM SEA REEFER LINE S.A. (WISDOM SEA REEFER LINE S.A.)	CLAUDIA E. RAMOS CERRATO VIRGIN FISHING COMPANY MYO THANT - Master/capitaine	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	May/mai 2018
5	FULL RICH	UNK (BELIZE)/INC (BELIZE)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2013-CoC10-08a/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2013-CoC10-08a	HMEK3	Noel International LTD (Noel International LTD)	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 07/02	May/mai 2013
6	XING HAI FENG (OCEAN LION)	PANAMA (EQUATORIAL GUINEA)/ PANAMA (GUINÉE ÉQUATORIALE)	7826233	Not Available/Pas disponible	3FHW5	Ocean Lion Shipping SA	Ocean Lion Shipping SA	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 02/04, 02/05, 03/05/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 02/04, 02/05, 03/05.	June/juin 2005
7	PESCACISNE 1, PESCACISNE 2 (PALOMA V)	Mauritania (EQUATORIAL GUINEA)/ Mauritanie (GUINÉE EQUATORIALE)	9319856	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2015-004/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2015-004	3CAF	Eastern Holdings	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
8	YU MAAN WON	UNK (GEORGIA)/ INC (GÉORGIE)	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02/	May/mai 2007

								Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 07/02	
9	HOOM XIANG 101	UNK (MALAYSIA)/ INC (MALAISIE)	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
10	HOOM XIANG 103	UNK (MALAYSIA)/ INC (MALAISIE)	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
11	HOOM XIANG 105	UNK (MALAYSIA)/ INC (MALAISIE)	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
12	HOOM XIANG II	UNK (MALAYSIA)/ INC (MALAISIE)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-S14-CoC13-Add1/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-S14-CoC13-add1	UNK/INC	Hoom Xiang Industries Sdn. Bhd	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 09/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 09/03	March/mars 2010
13	ABUNDANT 1 (YI HONG 06)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 226	Huang Jia Yi C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Hatto Daroi	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
14	ABUNDANT 12 (YI HONG 106)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 202	Huang Jia Yi C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Mendez Francisco Delos Reyes	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
15	ABUNDANT 3 (YI HONG 16)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 201	Huang Jia Yi C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Huang Wen Hsin	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
16	ABUNDANT 6 (YI HONG 86)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 221	Huang Jia Yi C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Huang Wen Hsin	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
17	ABUNDANT 9 (YI HONG 116)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 222	Huang Jia Yi C/O Room 18-E Tze Wei Commercial Building, No.8 6 Th Road Lin Ya District, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Pan Chao Mao	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
18	ANEKA 228	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
19	ANEKA 228; KM.	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
20	CHI TONG	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015

21	FU HSIANG FA 18	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
22	FU HSIANG FA NO. 01	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
23	FU HSIANG FA NO. 02	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
24	FU HSIANG FA NO. 06	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
25	FU HSIANG FA NO. 08	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
26	FU HSIANG FA NO. 09	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
27	FU HSIANG FA NO. 11	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
28	FU HSIANG FA NO. 13	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
29	FU HSIANG FA NO. 17	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
30	FU HSIANG FA NO. 20	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
31	FU HSIANG FA NO. 21 ^a	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2013-CoC10-07 Rev1/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2013-CoC10-07 Rev1	OTS 024 or OTS 089	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 07/02	May/mai 2013
32	FU HSIANG FA NO. 21 ^a	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
33	FU HSIANG FA NO. 23	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/	June/juin 2014

								Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	
34	FU HSIANG FA NO. 26	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
35	FU HSIANG FA NO. 30	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
36	GUNUAR MELYAN 21	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 07/02/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 07/02	June/juin 2008
37	KUANG HSING 127	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
38	KUANG HSING 196	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
39	MAAN YIH HSING	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
40	SAMUDERA PERKASA 11	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
41	SAMUDRA PERKASA 12	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
42	SHENG JI QUN 3	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 311	Chang Lin, Pao-Chun No. 161, San Min Rd. Yufu Village, Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, China	Mr. Chen, Chen-Tsai	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
43	SHUEN SIANG	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014 and May/mai 2015
44	SHUN LAI (HSIN JYI WANG NO. 6)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 514	Lee Cheng Chung No. 5 Tze Wei Road, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Sun Han Min	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
45	SIN SHUN FA 6	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015

46	SIN SHUN FA 67	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
47	SIN SHUN FA 8	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
48	SIN SHUN FA 9	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
49	SRI FU FA 168	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
50	SRI FU FA 18	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
51	SRI FU FA 188	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
52	SRI FU FA 189	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
53	SRI FU FA 286	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
54	SRI FU FA 67	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
55	SRI FU FA 888	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	June/juin 2014
56	TIAN LUNG NO.12	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
57	YI HONG 3	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2015
58	YU FONG 168	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Not Available/Pas disponible	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/	May/mai 2015

								Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	
59	YUTUNA 3 (HUNG SHENG NO. 166)	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 212	Yen Shih Hsiung Room 11-E. No.3 Tze Wei Forth Road, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. China	Mr. Lee, Shih-Yuan	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
60	YUTUNA NO. 1	UNK/INC	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to report IOTC-2017-CoC14-07/ Oui. Consulter le rapport IOTC-2017-CoC14-07.	CPA 302	Tseng Ming Tsai Room 11-E, No. 3 Tze Wei Fort Road, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	Mr. Yen, Shih-Shiung	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 11/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 11/03	May/mai 2017
61	AL WESAM 4 (CHAICHANACHO KE 8)	UNK/INC (DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAILA NDE)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2018-015/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2018-015	UNK/INC (HSN5721)	UNK/INC (MARINE RENOWN SARL)	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	May/mai 2018
62	AL WESAM 5 (CHAINAVEE 54)	UNK/INC (DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAILA NDE)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2018-015/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2018-015	UNK/INC (HSN5447)	UNK/INC (MARINE RENOWN SARL)	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	May/mai 2018
63	AL WESAM 2 (CHAINAVEE 55)	UNK/INC (DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAILA NDE)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2018-015/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2018-015	UNK/INC (HSB3852)	UNK/INC (MARINE RENOWN SARL)	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	May/mai 2018
64	AL WESAM 1 (SUPPHERMNAV EE 21)	UNK/INC (DJIBOUTI, THAILAND/THAILA NDE)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to IOTC Circular 2018-015/ Oui. Consulter le Circulaire CTOI 2018-015	UNK/INC (HSN5282)	UNK/INC (MARINE RENOWN SARL)	UNK/INC	Contravention of IOTC Resolution 17/03/ Violation de la résolution de la CTOI 17/03	May/mai 2018
65	CHOTCHAINAVEE 35	UNK/INC (DJIBOUTI)	UNK/INC	Yes. Refer to document IOTC-2019-CoC16-09 Rev1/Oui. Consulter le document IOTC-2019-CoC16-09 Rev1	UNK/INC	GREEN LAUREL INTERNATIONAL SARL	MASTER/PATRON: Mr PRAWIT KERDSUWAN	Engaged in fishing or fishing related activities in waters of a coastal State without permission or authorisation./S'est engagé dans la pêche ou des activités liées à la pêche dans des eaux d'un État côtier sans la permission ou l'autorisation.	June/Juin 2019

Note:

^a: No information on whether the two vessels FU HSIANG FA NO. 21 are the same vessels / Aucune information indiquant si les deux navires FU HSIANG FA NO. 21 sont les mêmes navires.

UNK: UNKNOWN

INC: INCONNU

APPENDIX 11.
IOTC BUDGET FOR 2020 AND INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR 2021

		Actuals 2018	2019	2020	2021
1	Staff costs				
1.1	Professional				
	Executive Secretary (D1)	171,728	174,785	185,095	188,797
	<i>Science</i>				
	Science Manager (P5)	73,346	145,588	135,319	138,025
	Science Coordinator (P4)	-	0	0	0
	Stock Assessment Expert (P4)	106,913	108,327	117,749	120,104
	Fishery Officer (Science P3)	64,198	96,533	104,852	106,949
	<i>Compliance</i>				
	Compliance Manager (P5)	-	143,376	135,319	138,025
	Compliance Coordinator (P4)	115,232	133,488	125,113	127,615
	Compliance Officer (P3)	115,853	123,986	125,381	127,889
	Fishery Officer (P1)	-	55,917	57,497	58,647
	<i>Data</i>				
	Data Coordinator (P4)	111,127	111,108	120,503	122,913
	Statistician (P3)	97,660	98,589	107,201	109,345
	<i>Admin.</i>				
	Administrative Officer (P3)	121,005	111,689	118,378	120,746
1.2	General Service				
	Administrative Assistant	24,346	18,790	18,643	19,016
	Office Associate	17,283	15,204	13,749	14,024
	Database Assistant	24,575	18,508	19,213	19,598
	Office Assistant	5,200	13,174	13,746	14,020
	Driver	13,279	10,095	10,169	10,372
	Overtime	2,695	5,450	5,100	5,202
	Total Salary Costs	1,064,439	1,384,607	1,413,027	1,441,288
1.3	Employer Pension and Health	288,469	379,736	386,021	393,741
1.4	Employer FAO Entitlement Fund	560,868	781,501	644,315	657,201
1.5	Adjustment entitlement fund	50,013			
1.6	Improved Cost Recovery Uplift	56,872	71,709	70,858	72,275
	Total Staff Costs	2,020,662	2,617,553	2,514,220	2,564,505
2	Operating Expenditures				
2.1	Capacity Building	86,741	100,000	40,000	40,000
2.2	Co-funding Science/Data grants	70,268	205,000	188,400	37,350
2.3	Co-funding Compliance grants	22,714	30,000	0	0
2.4	Misc. Contingencies	0	0	0	0
2.5	Consultants/Service Providers	175,325	155,000	568,600	508,600
2.6	Duty travel	111,173	150,000	160,000	160,000
2.7	Meetings	127,169	145,000	135,000	135,000
2.8	Interpretation	97,343	140,000	140,000	140,000
2.9	Translation	101,441	110,000	110,000	110,000
2.10	Equipment	30,769	25,000	25,000	25,000
2.11	General Operating Expenses	60,038	68,000	68,000	68,000
2.12	Printing	16,203	0	0	0
2.13	Contingencies	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Total OE	899,182	1,138,000	1,445,000	1,233,950
	SUB-TOTAL	2,919,843	3,755,553	3,959,220	3,798,455
3	Additional Contributions Seychelles	0	-20,100	-20,100	-20,100
4	FAO Servicing Costs	131,393	169,684	178,165	170,930
5	Deficit Contingency	-	150,000		
6	Meeting Participation Fund	250,903	200,000	250,000	250,000
	GRAND TOTAL	3,302,139	4,255,137	4,367,285	4,199,285

3%

-3.8%

APPENDIX 12.
IOTC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2020

Country	World Bank Classification in 2017	OECD Membership	Average catch for 2015-2017 (in metric tons)	Base Contribution	Operations Contribution	GNI Contribution	Catch Contribution	Total Contribution (in USD)
Australia	High	Yes	5,302	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$142,605	\$17,185	\$192,075
Bangladesh	Middle	No	1,363	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$884	\$68,820
China	Middle	No	75,362	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$48,856	\$116,792
Comoros	Middle	No	12,074	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$7,827	\$75,763
Eritrea	Low	No	219	\$14,088	\$0	\$0	\$142	\$14,230
European Union	High	Yes	212,798	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$142,605	\$689,759	\$864,649
France(Terr)	High	Yes	0	\$14,088	\$0	\$142,605	\$0	\$156,693
India	Middle	No	162,262	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$105,191	\$173,127
Indonesia	Middle	No	366,204	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$237,401	\$305,337
Iran, Islamic Republic of	Middle	No	246,478	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$159,786	\$227,722
Japan	High	Yes	15,449	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$142,605	\$50,075	\$224,965
Kenya	Middle	No	734	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$476	\$68,412
Korea, Rep of	High	Yes	21,874	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$142,605	\$70,903	\$245,793
Madagascar	Low	No	8,625	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$0	\$5,591	\$37,876
Malaysia	Middle	No	20,384	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$13,214	\$81,151
Maldives	Middle	No	130,739	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$84,755	\$152,691
Mauritius	Middle	No	13,780	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$8,933	\$76,869
Mozambique	Low	No	4,332	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$0	\$2,808	\$35,093
Oman	High	No	50,107	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$142,605	\$32,483	\$207,374
Pakistan	Middle	No	59,238	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$38,403	\$106,339
Philippines	Middle	No	243	\$14,088	\$0	\$35,651	\$158	\$49,897
Seychelles	High	No	118,278	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$142,605	\$76,677	\$251,567
Sierra Leone	Low	No	0	\$14,088	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,088
Somalia	Low	No	0	\$14,088	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,088
South Africa	Middle	No	496	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$321	\$68,258
Sri Lanka	Middle	No	92,495	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$59,962	\$127,899
Sudan	Middle	No	34	\$14,088	\$0	\$35,651	\$22	\$49,761
Tanzania	Low	No	7,343	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$0	\$4,760	\$37,045
Thailand	Middle	No	12,780	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$8,285	\$76,221
United Kingdom(Terr)	High	Yes	4	\$14,088	\$0	\$142,605	\$12	\$156,705
Yemen	Middle	No	34,010	\$14,088	\$18,197	\$35,651	\$22,048	\$89,984
			Total	\$436,729	\$436,729	\$1,746,914	\$1,746,914	\$4,367,285

APPENDIX 13.
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2020 AND 2021

	2020		2021	
Working Party on Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)	12-14 February	Kenya	TBC	TBD
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC)	16-20 March	Thailand	TBC	TBD
Technical Committee on Performance Review (TCPR)	No meeting	-	TBC	TBD
Compliance Committee (CoC)	31 May-2 June	Indonesia	Week prior to S25	TBD
Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF)	3 June	Indonesia	Week prior to S25	TBD
Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP)	5-6 June	Indonesia	Week prior to S25	TBD
Commission	8-12 June	Indonesia	June TBC 5 days	TBD
Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)	TBC	Kenya	TBC	TBD
Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT)	TBC	TBD	TBC	TBD
Working Party on Billfish (WPB)	1 – 5 September	TBD	TBC	TBD
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)	7 – 11 September	TBD	TBC	TBD
Working Party on Methods (WPM)	13-15 October	Maldives	TBC	TBD
Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)	18-22 October	Maldives	TBC	TBD
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS)	November (TBC)	Seychelles	November (TBC)	Seychelles
Scientific Committee (SC)	November-December (TBC)	Seychelles	November-December (TBC)	Seychelles